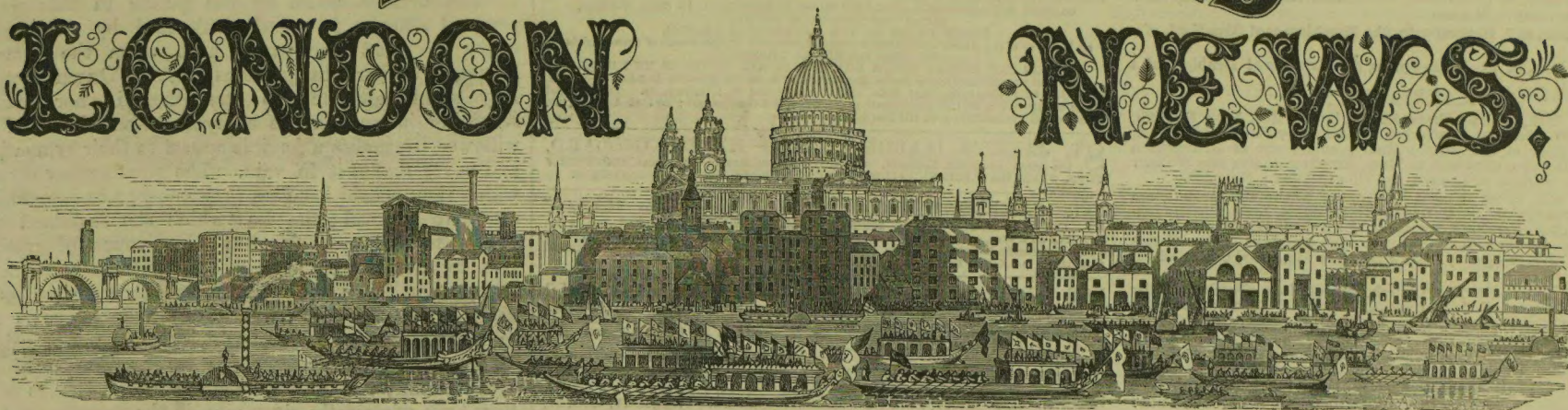


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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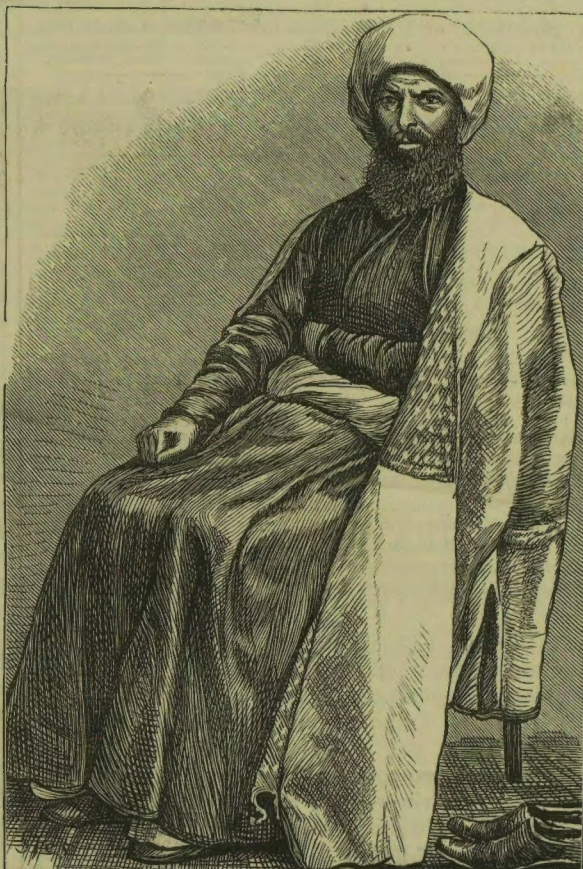
No. 1768.—VOL. LXIII.

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1873.

WITH EXTRA SUPPLEMENT {SIXPENCE.
By Post, 6½d.



ARMENIAN WOMAN IN KARABOK.



TARTAR PRIEST.



ARMENIAN GIRL IN BAXU.



ARMENIAN FRUITSELLER.



POOR KURD FAMILY.

BIRTHS.

On the 11th inst., at South Kensington, the wife of Florence M. Maitland, Esq., of a son.
On the 12th inst., at 67, Adelaide-road, N.W., the wife of Edward Wiltham Jackson, Esq., of a daughter.
On the 11th inst., at Chase Side, Winchmore Hill, Middlesex, Mrs. Horace Kollmann Mayor, of a son.
On the 9th inst., at 7, Rutland-gate, the Marchioness of Blandford, of a daughter.
On the 13th inst., at 49, Eaton-square, the Countess of Denbigh, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 9th inst., at East Sheen, Surrey, by the Rev. John Rodgers, M.A., Vicar of St. Thomas's, Charterhouse, assisted by the Rev. Albert S. Shute, M.A., Vicar of the parish, Henry, eldest son of N. Trevenen Trengrouse, of Helston, Cornwall, to Mary, daughter of the late William James Walrond, solicitor, of London, and Ilford, Essex. No cards.
On the 15th inst., at St. James's, Paddington, by the Ven. Archdeacon Bathurst, assisted by the Rev. C. R. Jervis Pearson, R. Lynn Smart, Lieutenant R.N., H.M.S. Excellent, son of the Rev. Prebendary Smart, Rector of Burghfield, to Caroline Wentworth, youngest daughter of Dr. Walter Bryant, of 23A, Sussex-square, Hyde Park, and Highwoods, Burghfield, Berks.
On the 10th inst., at the New Church, Summer-lane, Birmingham, by the Rev. R. R. Rodgers, F. J. R. Carulla, F.C.S., of Sheffield, lately of St. Petersburg, and formerly of Buenos Ayres, to Ellen, youngest daughter of the late Francis Johnstone, Esq., Handsworth, Staffordshire.
On the 14th inst., at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, Mr. A. Baird, of Urie, Kincardineshire, to Miss Palk, eldest daughter of Sir L. Palk, Bart.
On the 9th inst., at All Saints, Knightsbridge, H. Pigott, son of the late C. H. and L. Pigott, to Gwendoline, youngest daughter of Captain and the Hon. Mrs. R. Beaumont.
On the 10th inst., at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, S. J. Dyer, Captain the Buffs, youngest son of Sir T. Dyer, Bart., to Emily M. E. Bythesea, only daughter of the late H. E. Bythesea, Esq., of Nettleton, Wilts.

DEATHS.

On the 30th ult., at Rowden Villa, Ramsgate, A. W. Fitzmaurice, Esq., late Lieutenant in H.M.'s 24th Regiment, eldest son of the Hon. Major Fitzmaurice, and nephew of the Right Hon. the Earl of Orkney.
On the 18th inst., at Chiefwood, near Melrose, Magdalen, widow of John Scott, of Gala, Esq., and daughter of the late Sir A. Hope, of Craighall, Bart., in her 81st year.
On the 13th inst., at Barlaston Hall, Staffordshire, very suddenly, William Brownfield, Esq., Justice of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant for the county of Stafford, aged 61.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 26.

SUNDAY, JULY 20.
Sixth Sunday after Trinity.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30, the Rev. Prebendary Derwent Coleridge, Rector of Hanwell; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Gregory; 7 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Simpson.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., the Right Rev. Bishop Coughton, Archdeacon of London; 3 p.m., the Rev. Prebendary J. W. Irons, D.D., Rector of St. Mary Woolnoth; 7 p.m., the Rev. R. Hawes, Incumbent of St. James's, Westmoreland-street.
St. James's, noon, probably the Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal.
Whitehall, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Rev. H. L. Thompson.
Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, Chaplain of the Savoy and of the House of Commons; 7 p.m., the Rev. W. J. Loftie, Assistant Chaplain of the Savoy.
Temple Church, 11 a.m., probably the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 3 p.m., the Rev. Alfred Ainger, Reader at the Temple.
Poor Clergy Relief Corporation: St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, 11 a.m., the Very Rev. Dr. Stanley, Dean of Westminster.
French Anglican Church of St. John ("La Savoy"), Bloomsbury-street, services in French, 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., by the Rev. F. W. B. Bouverie, Incumbent.
MONDAY, JULY 21.
Royal Naval Benevolent Society, quarterly meeting, at Willis's Rooms, noon.
London Academy of Music, annual concert, St. George's Hall.
Geologists' Association, excursion to the Malvern district (six days).
Royal Alfred Yacht Club, Champion Cup, &c.
TUESDAY, JULY 22.
Church of Ireland Sustentation Fund: Meeting at Lambeth Palace 2.30 p.m. (the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair).
Huntingdon Races.
Cherterfield Races (two days).
National Temperance Fête, United Kingdom Alliance, at the Crystal Palace.
Castle Eden Agricultural Society Show at Seaham (prizes to be given for hunters).
Royal Alfred Yacht Club, Corinthian Match, &c.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 23.
National Archery Meeting at Leamington (three days).
Royal Botanic Society, promenade, 3.30 p.m.
East of England Horse Show at Beccles (two days).
THURSDAY, JULY 24.
New moon, 10.34 a.m.
Kingsbury Races, summer meeting.
Blackburn and East Lancashire Agricultural Society, annual show at Blackburn.
Hitchin Poultry and Pigeon Show.
Kent Archaeological Society, meeting at Cranbrook (two days).
Bideford Annual Horse, Dog, and Poultry Show (two days).
Crystal Palace: Opera, "Robin Hood," 3 p.m.
FRIDAY, JULY 25.
St. James, Apostle.
The Duchess of Cambridge born, 1797.
Quekett Microscopical Club, anniversary, 8 p.m.
South Durham and North Yorkshire Great Annual Horse and Dog Show.
SATURDAY, JULY 26.
Royal Academy of Music, public concert at Hanover-square Rooms, 1.30 p.m.
Crystal Palace, seventh summer concert, 3 p.m.
Royal Botanic Society, 3.45 p.m.
Royal Horticultural Society, promenade, 4 p.m.
Moulsley Regatta.
Institute of Painters in Water Colours Exhibition closes.
New Brighton Sailing Club, match.
Cheshire Yacht Club, match.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 13' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOM.		WIND.		Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	General.			
July	2 30.007	62.0	54.1	77	9	52.5	71.3	WSW. SSW.	250	0.18	
	3 29.840	64.5	56.5	76	9	58.2	73.1	SSW. S.	275	0.43	
	4 29.745	60.2	47.9	66	5	56.9	68.6	WSW. SW.	249	0.00	
	5 29.766	57.9	55.3	92	10	48.9	66.9	S. SSW.	237	0.41	
	6 29.929	61.4	49.0	66	10	56.4	71.4	WSW. WNW.	103	0.00	
	7 30.083	62.3	52.3	70	2	50.3	76.1	W. SSW.	102	0.00	
	8 30.047	65.3	55.6	72	5	51.1	77.9	SSW. SW.	212	0.00	
	9 30.089	61.3	49.5	67	7	54.1	71.6	W. WSW.	249	0.00	
	10 29.859	65.9	52.3	68	7	56.0	73.5	SSW. WSW.	225	0.00	
	11 29.812	60.5	49.2	68	9	55.9	70.6	WSW. SSW.	205	0.00	
	12 29.722	59.4	50.5	74	7	53.6	69.7	SSW.	330	0.00	
	13 29.510	56.2	54.5	94	10	52.2	64.5	SSW. S.	387	1.04	
	14 29.677	58.1	50.9	78	7	50.4	68.5	SSW.	340	1.93	
	15 29.767	58.0	49.8	73	5	51.2	66.0	SW. WSW.	235	0.76	

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

JULY 2 TO JULY 8.											
Barometer (in inches) corrected	30.022	29.912	29.706	29.800	29.876	31.090	30.072				
Temperature of Air	65.8	65.9	62.3	62.3	61.8	66.2	67.1				
Temperature of Evaporation	60.1	62.0	53.3	58.5	57.7	59.4	59.2				
Direction of Wind	SSW.	SSW.	SW.	S.	WNW.	SW.	SW.				
JULY 9 TO JULY 15.											
Barometer (in inches) corrected	30.119	29.877	29.839	29.755	29.636	29.676	29.733				
Temperature of Air	60.7	64.4	63.7	62.3	62.7	60.9	62.2				
Temperature of Evaporation	55.5	60.6	56.7	56.7	56.8	55.7	54.9				
Direction of Wind	WSW.	SSW.	SSW.	SW.	SSE.	SW.	W.				

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 26.											
Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.	Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.
10.12	11.13	12.14	13.15	14.16	15.17	16.18	17.19	18.20	19.21	20.22	21.23

S. T. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.

The world-famed MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS, every Night at Eight; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, Three and Eight. ALL THE YEAR ROUND. The Entertainment given by the Moore and Burgess Minstrels now enjoys the proud distinction of being classified as the OLDEST ESTABLISHED AND THE MOST SUCCESSFUL IN THE WORLD, having been presented at this Hall for EIGHT YEARS IN ONE CONTINUOUS SEASON, an instance of popularity altogether without a precedent in the annals of amusements. NO FEES OR EXTRA CHARGES. LADIES CAN RETAIN THEIR BONNETS IN ALL PARTS OF THE HALL. New and Luxurious Private Boxes, acknowledged to be the finest in London, £1 11s. 6d. to £2 12s. 6d.; Fautouls, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets and places at Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; Ollivier's, Old Bond-street; and at Austin's, St. James's Hall, from Nine a.m. till Ten p.m.

ST. JAMES'S (LARGE) HALL—HARDY GILLARD, the great American Lecturer, will unroll his celebrated Panorama, FROM NEW YORK OVER THE PACIFIC RAILWAY TO CALIFORNIA, Every Evening at Eight.

ST. JAMES'S (LARGE) HALL—Previous to HARDY GILLARD'S PANORAMA being unrolled, a long Painting, 40 ft. by 8 ft., stretched on a wire, is shown. It is a physical Map—a bird's-eye view of the country over which the Pacific Railway has been constructed. A Fifteen Minutes' Lecture is delivered from it; it is a Key to the Panorama, which contains Thirty-six Views.

ST. JAMES'S (LARGE) HALL—MORNING ENTERTAINMENTS, MONDAYS, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, at Three; Evenings at Eight. Sofa Stalls, numbered, 3s.; Unreserved and Balcony, 2s.; Admission, 1s.; Children under Twelve, Half price.—Tickets at Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; and Austin's Office, St. James's Hall.

BIRMINGHAM TRIENNIAL MUSICAL FESTIVAL, in Aid of the Funds of the BIRMINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL. Thirty-Fifth Celebration, on TUESDAY, AUG. 26; WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27; THURSDAY, AUG. 28; FRIDAY, AUG. 29. Programmes of the Performances will be forwarded by post on application to the undersigned, at the offices of the Festival Committee, 17, Ann-street, Birmingham, on and after the 26th inst. By order, HOWARD S. SMITH, Secretary to the Festival Committee.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S New Entertainment, entitled MILDRED'S WELL, OUR GARDEN PARTY, and VERY CATCHING. ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight. Morning Representations Every Thursday and Saturday at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s. Last Season.

HORTICULTURAL FLOWER SHOW at the PINEAPPLE NURSERY.—A Grand Display.—The WINTER GARDEN CONSERVATORY is the largest and finest Horticultural Building at any Nursery in the world. The Nobility and Gentry are most respectfully invited. Families of distinction will find this Conservatory a most agreeable promenade.—THE PINEAPPLE NURSERY COMPANY, 32, Maida-vale, Edgware-road, St. John's-wood.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS. The SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is now OPEN, 5, Pall-mall East, from Nine till Seven. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

DORE'S GREAT PICTURE of "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM," with "The Night of the Crucifixion," "Christian Martyrs," "Francesca di Rimini," "Neophyte," "Andromeda," &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

ELIJAH WALTON EXHIBITION, including "A Storm on the Sea" and "A Sand Storm in the Desert," and many New and Important Drawings, Alpine and Eastern, NOW OPEN at BURLINGTON GALLERY, 191, Piccadilly. Ten to Six. Admission, with Catalogue, 1s.

WILL CLOSE SATURDAY NEXT, 26th inst., INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS, the Annual Exhibition. Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 53, Pall-mall. JAMES FAHEY, Sec.

THE VIENNA EXHIBITION.

The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS can be obtained regularly of Messrs. Dillinger and Conraths, No. 2, Lenaugasse, Josefstadt, Vienna, and of their Agents.

Die ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS ist regelmässig zu beziehen durch die Herrn Dillinger und Conraths, Lenaugasse 2, Josefstadt, Wien, und durch deren Agenten.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1873.

For some months past intermittent rumours found circulation among our fellow-countrymen of a projected matrimonial engagement between her Majesty's second son, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Grand Duchess Maria, daughter of the reigning Czar of Russia. The rumour has now been confirmed by fact. The betrothal of our Sailor Prince with the only daughter of Alexander II. of Russia has been publicly announced on authority not to be disputed. We need hardly say that the announcement has favourably impressed the minds of the British people. The match appears to be as suitable as any which it was within the power of his Royal Highness to make. The choice has been his own, prompted by personal attachment, not prescribed by state convenience or by political considerations. All such announcements affecting those we know, and for whose happiness in life we cherish sincere good wishes, awaken in our bosoms pleasurable sympathies. The union of two hearts, to be followed in due time by a union of hands and of lives, is one of those epochs in personal history which seldom fail of eliciting kindly sentiment.

The Duke of Edinburgh has commended himself to the British people by traits of character and by professional activity which have enlisted in his favour no little social interest. He has all the frankness of the naval order, combined with all that readiness to take part in public enterprises of philanthropy, charity, art, and science which can be expected from his high position. As he is not a political partisan—indeed, is precluded by his connection with the Sovereign of the realm from descending into the arena of party politics—he has made no political enemies. All ranks and classes may meet in his presence and avail themselves of his service in promoting the intellectual and social wellbeing of the people, without the smallest danger of provoking angry collision of feeling. And, as we have just intimated, he has lent himself and the powerful social influence which he wields to all movements and those of political society with hearty readiness and unaffected zeal. He, too, like his Royal brother the Prince of Wales, has passed through a crisis of danger and suffering, though at the opposite side of the globe, which deepened the affection with which the children of her Majesty are uniformly regarded by the people of this country. There is nothing strained therefore, nothing surprising or unnatural, in the pleasure with which the announcement of his betrothal has been received by the public. The spontaneous response of society to that announcement, if it could be condensed into a single

sentence, would unquestionably take the shape of cordial congratulation, and of unfeigned desire on his behalf and on behalf of his bride-elect, that their married life may be a long and happy one.

The interest taken by the public in this purely personal alliance is greatly enhanced by the bearing which it must necessarily have upon the domestic happiness of her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. Any event calculated to strengthen in her heart a returning interest in the enjoyments and duties of her widowed life makes a forcible appeal to their sympathies, and never makes it in vain. The great sorrow through which they beheld her pass they know to be incapable of complete removal; the loss which she sustained they believe to be irreparable; but it is a source of gratification to them to be permitted to witness the gradual filling up of that vacancy in her affections created by the death of her Royal Consort, nearly a dozen years ago, by those objects of interest which seldom fail of gaining an ascendancy over a mother's heart. The multiplication of family ties, and the solicitudes and joys to which they have necessarily given rise, in the experience of the Queen, concur with other causes in inspiring the hope that the memory of that overwhelming event is so far lightened as to allow the free and uninterrupted play of those affections in which the happiness of a woman's life so largely consists, and which play so great a part in dissipating the gloom of brooding sorrow. Her Majesty's subjects will heartily congratulate her on this new event in her domestic life, and will entertain a hope that it will be to her a rich source of additional enjoyment.

There is no political significance in this betrothal. Dynastic alliances are of little importance in the present time. Probably in no age of the world have they had less influence in guiding the course of national affairs than they have in this. Unhappily, the great questions of international movement—questions, for instance, of peace or war—override all family ties. Policy, at any rate on the large scale, prosecutes its ends without any serious regard to the connections and relationships that may chance to subsist between Royal houses. Our foreign relations will not be modified, even by a hair's breadth, by the alliance of the Duke of Edinburgh with the daughter of the Czar. In one sense such a condition of things may be accepted without regret, but, no doubt, it has its disagreeable aspects. Still, one may be justified in assuming that the engagement between the Duke and the Grand Duchess, sanctioned as it has been by the Queen and the Czar, indicates and illustrates the friendly feeling which at present characterises the relations of the two Courts. Probably the rulers as well as the people of both countries have been taught by observation and experience that the respective interests of Governments which differ widely from each other in the form and working of their national institutions act wisely in giving all the freedom which they claim, and, along with that freedom, all due honour. We have no right to look down on any foreign people because they prefer their own political institutions and methods to those adopted by ourselves; nor have they any sufficient reason to regard us with coldness or dislike because we may chance to have advanced somewhat further in the way of political progress than they have done. Russia and England have many interests in common, many motives for holding each other in high respect. It will rather add to than detract from the force of those motives that the reigning houses of the two empires should be allied by marriage. It may predispose the subjects of both Crowns to mutual kindness and esteem. We believe that the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Alexandra of Denmark has tended to increase the interest which Englishmen and Danes had previously felt in each other's wellbeing. A similar consequence may result from the matrimonial alliance of the Duke of Edinburgh. Its indirect influence may, to a certain extent, be beneficial to both peoples. But whether this be so or not, we do but express the general sense of the public in saying that the announcement of this Royal betrothal has suggested thoughts and quickened feelings which are in perfect harmony with the event, and has diffused lively gratification amongst all classes of her Majesty's subjects.

The regatta of the Royal Clyde Yacht Club, sailed, on Tuesday from Largs, was a very successful affair. The first prize for the largest class of schooners was won by the Pantomime, and that for the largest class of cutters by the Oimara.

The formidable litigation before the House of Lords' Committee for Privileges respecting the dormant earldom of Mar has been resumed. Both claimants—Lord Kellie and Mr. Goodeve Erskine—are strongly represented.

The Masonic Festival of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was held at Chatham on Wednesday, under the presidency of Viscount Holmsdale, M.P. The members of the craft appeared in mourning for the late Earl of Zetland.

The Board of Trade inquiry into the stranding of the steamer Clarinda was concluded, on Wednesday, at the Greenwich Police Court. The judgment was condemnatory of the conduct of the master, Mr. T. G. Thorpe, and the Court suspended his certificate for nine months.

The following appointments for the Social Science Congress, to be held at Norwich, have been made:—Mr. Joseph Brown, Q.C., president of the Jurisprudence department; Mr. P. F. O'Malley, Q.C., chairman of the Repression of Crime section; Professor W. B. Hodgson, LL.D., president of the Education department; and Mr. Thomas Brassey, M.P., president of the department of Economy and Trade.

THE COURT.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle yesterday (Friday) week for the Isle of Wight. Her Majesty travelled by the Great Western and South-Western Railways to Gosport, and crossed thence in the Royal yacht *Alberta*, Captain the Prince of Leiningen, G.C.B., to Osborne, arriving at half-past one o'clock. On the following day Sir Howard Elphinstone visited her Majesty. On Sunday the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service, performed at Osborne by the Rev. George Prothero. Her Majesty held a Council at Osborne on Thursday. The Queen, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, has walked and driven out daily, and has visited West Cowes and Newport. Sir Thomas M. Biddulph has arrived at Osborne.

The Duchess of Roxburghe has succeeded the Duchess Dowager of Athole as Lady in Waiting, and the Hon. Caroline Cavendish has succeeded the Hon. Harriet Phipps as Maid of Honour in Waiting to her Majesty.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Grand Duchess Cesarevna, visited Madame Jerichau's exhibition of pictures on Thursday week. The Grand Duke Cesarevitch visited the French Gallery, the Royal Academy of Arts, the Exhibition of Painters in Water Colours, the Burlington Fine Arts Club, and M. Gustave Doré's Gallery of Pictures. On the following day the Prince and the Cesarevitch went to Woolwich, and were present at a review of the Royal Artillery. Their Royal and Imperial Highnesses were entertained at luncheon by Lieut.-General Sir David Wood and the officers of the Royal Artillery, and afterwards inspected the Royal Laboratory and Arsenal. In the evening the Prince and Princess and the Cesarevna were present at a ball given by Countess Cowper, at her residence in Grosvenor-square. On Saturday last the Prince and Princess, accompanied by the Cesarevitch and the Cesarevna, visited the Bank of England, the Electric Telegraph Office, and the Tower of London, where their Royal and Imperial Highnesses were entertained at luncheon by Colonel the Hon. Percy Feilding, Colonel Goodlake, and the officers of the second battalion of Coldstream Guards. The Cesarevitch left Marlborough House in the evening for Darmstadt. On Sunday the Prince and Princess attended Divine service at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The Rev. the Sub-Dean, the Rev. S. Flood Jones, and the Rev. Canon Harvey officiated. The Cesarevna went to the Russian chapel, Welbeck-street. On Monday their Royal and Imperial Highnesses had luncheon with the Premier and Mrs. Gladstone, at their residence on Carlton House-terrace. The South Wales Choral Union sang before the Prince and Princess and the Cesarevna at Marlborough House. In the evening their Royal and Imperial Highnesses dined with the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne, at their residence, Berkeley-square. On Tuesday the Prince and Princess and the Cesarevna were entertained at a dinner and a ball by Earl and Countess Granville, at their residence on Carlton House-terrace. On Wednesday their Royal and Imperial Highnesses were present at a ball given by the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, at Montague House.

BETROTHAL OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

The Duke of Edinburgh is betrothed to the Grand Duchess Marie-Alexandrovna, of Russia, the only daughter of the Emperor Alexander II. of Russia, by his Empress, Maria, daughter of the late Grand Duke Ludwig II. of Hesse-Darmstadt. The Grand Duchess is in her twentieth year, having been born on Oct. 17 (or, according to the old style of Russian calculation, Oct. 5), 1853.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein had arranged to leave Frogmore on Wednesday, en route for the Continent, on a visit to the Queen of Holland, at The Hague, and the King and Queen of the Belgians, at Brussels; but, in consequence of the indisposition of the Princess, their departure was deferred. Prince Christian, on behalf of the Duke of Edinburgh, presided, last Saturday, at the opening of an infirmary and an additional wing in connection with the London Orphan Asylum, at Watford.

Prince Arthur has embarked on board her Majesty's yacht *Enchantress*, Commander Carr, for Norway, to represent the Queen at the coronation of King Oscar II., at Drönheim.

Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne had a dinner-party, on Saturday last, at their residence in Grosvenor-crescent. Her Royal Highness and the Marquis have also dined with Viscount and Viscountess Strafford de Redcliffe and the Right Hon. the Speaker and Mrs. Brand.

The Duchess of Cambridge had a dinner-party on Wednesday, at her residence in the Ambassadors' Court, St. James's Palace.

THE CHURCH.

A peal of five bells has been presented to St. Peter's Church, Combwich, near Bridgwater, by Mrs. Jeffery.

The Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot is chairman of the Council of the London Free and Open Church Association.

The Bishop of London has given notice that he will hold his next general ordination in St. Paul's Cathedral at Christmas.

The Bishop of Winchester entertained at dinner, on Tuesday evening, the Archdeacon and Rural Deans of his diocese at Winchester House, St. James's-square. After dinner the Right Rev. Prelate received about 300 of the clergy and other friends.

The churches of Enmoe, Somerset; of Hardwick, near Aylesbury; of Winterborne, Kingstone; of Brackley, Northants; and of Leatherhead have recently been reopened after restoration.

The Bishop of Winchester held a confirmation in the chapel of the Royal Patriotic Fund Girls' School, on Wandsworth-common, on Thursday week, when nearly a hundred boys and girls were confirmed.

The restoration of St. Alban's Abbey is progressing steadily under the care and superintendence of Sir George Gilbert Scott, though we regret to hear that before long it will have to be suspended, as the greater part of the £15,000 already collected for the purpose of its repair has been expended, and subscriptions come in more slowly than was hoped by its promoters.

Last Saturday the foundation-stone of the new parish church of Worlaby, near Brigg, in the diocese of Lincoln, was laid by Mrs. Astley, of Elsham Hall. The new church, which will be built upon the site of the three ancient edifices which have successively occupied the same spot, will cost about £3000, contributed by Lieutenant-Colonel Astley.

The annual examination of the girls in the Clergy Orphan School was held at St. John's-wood on the 11th inst. The Archbishop of Canterbury presided. The Farmer prizes of £10, £5, and £3 each were awarded to Dora Millett, Hilda Grylls, and Evelyn Boyle respectively. The Archbishop expressed his gratification at the examination.

The *Post* says that arrangements are in progress for the establishment of a new bishopric for the district of Saskatchewan, where there are said to be 300,000 Pagan Indians. The district stretches about 700 miles eastward from the Rocky Mountains, and small settlements exist in various parts of it. In addition to these, there is a large general population. A committee has been formed for the purpose of carrying out the project.

Mrs. Clive, the wife of the Rev. Archer Clive, Chancellor and Prebendary of Hereford Cathedral, and formerly Rector of Solihull, near Birmingham, was writing in her boudoir on Saturday evening, surrounded by a number of books and manuscripts, when a spark flew from the fire and ignited her dress. Before assistance could arrive Mrs. Clive, who for years had been a confirmed invalid, was terribly burned, and died on the following morning. She was the authoress of "Paul Ferroll," a volume of poems, and other works.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Mr. Galford Goodwin, B.A., Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford, has been nominated by the trustees to the scholarship founded in honour of the late Earl of Derby, and called after him the Derby Scholarship. The scholarship was founded last year, and the present is the first election made.

Speech Day at Christ's Hospital was celebrated on Wednesday, when the principal prizes to the successful scholars were distributed by the Lord Mayor. The examiners' report spoke highly of the general efficiency shown in all subjects. The list of honours gained during the past year by "Old Blues" includes, at Cambridge, three scholarships, the second place in the examination for the Indian Civil Service; and at Oxford three first classes, two scholarships, a Radcliffe Travelling Fellowship, and the Gaisford prize for Greek verse.

Wednesday, the 9th inst., being the annual speech day at Highgate School, the prizes for composition and other school exercises were given away before a large number of visitors. Dr. Dyne, the Head Master, mentioned that among the honours gained by pupils from the school at the Universities and elsewhere during the preceding year had been two first-classes in moderations at Oxford and an entrance to Woolwich by open competition.

Thursday, the 10th inst., was speech-day at Haileybury College. By twelve o'clock, the time when the speeches began, between 300 and 400 people were assembled in the great school on the south side of the quadrangle. The pieces acted were selected from Aristophanes' "Clouds," "The Critic," "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," and "Richard II." The acting was very fair throughout. After the speeches the company adjourned to the hall, where a sumptuous dejeuner had been spread. There was a long honour-list for the last year.

"Domum Day" will take place at Winchester College on the 29th inst., and the ball follows the next evening at the New Guildhall.

NATIONS OF WESTERN ASIA.

The advance of Russian conquest with some elements of European civilisation seems in this age destined to put a new face on the border-lands that lie between Europe and Asia, or those parts of one and the other continent which surround the Caspian Sea. It is the manifest destiny of Russia to bring these countries, except such as belong to the two Mohammedan empires of Turkey and Persia, into the peaceful and industrial fellowship of civilised mankind, sharing in the ideas and habits of modern Christendom. To be jealous of this mission, confided by Providence to Russia, would be most unworthy of Great Britain, whose glorious and beneficent task is that of communicating English ways and means of life to the nations of Southern and Eastern Asia, within reach of her maritime commerce and naval power. The task of Russia in Northern and North-Western Asia—of Central Asia we prefer just now to say nothing—is equally commendable and useful to the common interests of humanity. On the western shore, at least, of the Caspian, in the highlands of the Caucasus, and again to the eastward, in the wild region of the Kirghiz Tartars beyond the Ural river, the rude practices of incessant rapine and unsparing warfare, among half-savage tribes of men, who were averse to every kind of productive labour, have been superseded by their subjection to an orderly government; and if only the same results follow the toilsome march of the Russian armies in the deserts of Turkestan, so much the better for all the world.

The eastern shores of the Caspian, as we have remarked, though reckoned to lie in Europe, have the aspect of border-lands, from the Ural river across the Volga to Circassia and Daghestan; while Georgia, separated from these by the Caucasus range of mountains, and also Armenia, the adjacent province of the Sultan's Empire, partake in like manner of both the European and the Asiatic characters, though these are not easily defined. The traveller who should pass through Roumania, down the Lower Danube, and thence across Turkey, or who should take the Crimea in his way to Tiflis or to Astrakhan, would find himself gradually conducted from European customs, scenes, and figures, to those of Asiatic nations. Our Illustrations—those on the front page of this week's paper, representing several types of Armenian, Tartar, and Kurdish races, and the group of men and women in Georgia which appears in another Engraving—will suggest to the observant reader, without needing a particular description, some confirmation of this general remark. To enter more into detail on the present occasion would take up more space than we can now afford; but there will be another opportunity of discussing the subject. It is enough here to mention that all these nations—Armenians, Georgians, Mingrelians, Circassians, and Tartars, as well as the Kirghizes, Turkomans, Usbeks, and Bashkirs, on the opposite or eastern shores of the Caspian—have been shaken up together, in extreme geographical and ethnological confusion, by mutual warlike incursions, and by intrusive migrations hither and thither, since the beginning of authentic history. They present even a stranger medley than the diverse mixed peoples of Hindostan under British rule, from the Cashmere frontier to the Bay of Bengal or to the Malabar coast. This political experience of our own might teach us to understand the difficult problem of Russian Imperial Government in the West of Asia, and likewise in the East of Europe. But it is not always that one is disposed to judge another by the measure wherewith he would desire himself to be judged.

The figures shown on our front page are copied from a set of photographs by Mr. Levites, sent us by Mr. Gustav Kalantaroff, of Tiflis.

BRITISH LEGATION, TEHERAN.

As the Shah Nasr-ood-Deen has lately seen a good deal of us Englishmen in our own country, it is natural to ask how much he had the opportunity of making English acquaintances when he stayed at home in his capital city of Teheran. The whole number of Europeans residing at Teheran does not usually ex-

ceed fifty, as we learn from Mr. W. Brittlebank's narrative of his tour last year in "Persia during the Famine" (just published by Mr. B. M. Pickering, of Piccadilly). There are, perhaps, three or four English households connected with the official diplomatic representation of her Majesty Queen Victoria at the Court of his Majesty the Shah. The British Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary receives a salary of £5000 a year; he is assisted by a staff consisting of the Secretary of Legation, the Oriental Secretary, and another secretary; the translator, who is also Vice-Consul; and the physician. Our Illustration gives a view of the building allotted for the residence of the British Legation at Teheran. Having casually referred to Mr. Brittlebank's little book, we may here add that it is worth reading, as the latest description of Persia by an English traveller. But there is little pleasure in the scenes which came under his eye at Bushire, where the miseries of the famine were horribly displayed; at Shiraz and Ispahan, once famous towns, now in a wretched state of decay and filthy squalor; lastly, at Teheran, which does not make a favourable impression on European visitors. Between these cities, from the south to the north of the Shah's kingdom, is a dismal road of several hundred miles "over sandy deserts and salt plains." As the author says of his own journey to Teheran in the month of May, "It was almost a repetition of that between Shiraz and Ispahan. But the marches were longer and more fatiguing, the sun grew hotter and hotter, the salt plains intensified our thirst, and dead bodies in every stage of decomposition became more and more frequent. Upon these vultures gorged, unheeding the traveller, or flying away on lazy wing to a little distance until he passed. The unhappy beings who thus perished on the desert plains were doubtless driven from their own mountain homes or villages by want, and were on their way to some one of the chief towns of the country, in the hope of finding there the food for which they starved. They lay where they fell exhausted, and found in death relief from their sufferings." This is not an inviting description of Persia, nor encouraging for the shareholders in Baron Reuter's schemes for the sudden transformation of that country into a modern industrial paradise of wealth. Its misery has either been caused by long ages of oppression and barbarous misrule, or by the arid soil, the parching climate, and the lack of rivers, for which Nature has to answer; but, in the lifetime of Nasr-ood-Deen and Baron Reuter, it will scarcely be possible to redress entirely these unhappy conditions of Persia.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

We suppose that the Alexandra Park meeting, which took place at the end of last week, must be considered a success, for the attendance was very large on both days, and there were no accidents to jockeys or horses. Still, we do not believe that the nature of the course will ever admit of a really high-class fixture being brought off, as the turns are so abrupt that one or two horses ran out in several of the races, and completely destroyed their respective chances. A very nice racing-like filly by Trumpeter—Lady Palmerston, one of Mr. Fisher's powerful team of two-year-olds, won a couple of events; but the best youngster that ran at the meeting was Couronne de Fer, who, with 10 to 1 on him, disposed of Vincent with great ease. Bauernfanger, who appears to have dispensed with his hood and blinkers, was also in capital form, and beat Blenheim very cleverly indeed for the seven-furlong Alexandra Cup, which M. Lefevre won last year with Drummond. The last-named colt, who was on the ground but did not run, would probably have made a better fight with the German horse, as the distance was a little too far for Blenheim. The numerous "little-gos" of the present week at Sutton Park, Chelmsford, Ipswich, &c., need no remark.

On Wednesday Messrs. Tattersall disposed of the whole of the Alvediston stud, the property of Mr. William Day, the well-known trainer. The sale took place at Alexandra Park, which is well adapted for the exhibition of blood stock. Eighty-five lots realised 12,813 gs., a satisfactory result when it is remembered that the thirty-three yearlings are by no means fashionably bred. Araby's Daughter, the dam of Oxonian, only fetched 350 gs., as she is nineteen years old; but her colt foal, own brother to Oxonian, reached 400 gs. The highest price of the sale (460 gs.) was given by Mr. Weatherby for Maid of Athol, a fine young mare by Blair Athol—Tunstall Maid. Of the sires, Camerino was bought in, and Man-at-Arms and Promised Land were knocked down for 150 gs. and 160 gs. respectively. To-day (Saturday) the sale of Sir Joseph Hawley's stud will take place at Middle Park, when some sensational bidding may be expected. Rosicrucian is sure to cause much competition; among the brood mares are Bas Bleu (dam of Blue Gown), Salamanca (dam of Pero Gomez), and Madame Eglantine (dam of Rosicrucian); while yearling brothers to Blue Gown and Pero Gomez and a sister to Rosicrucian will set half the ring nodding.

The annual Eton and Harrow cricket-match was played on Friday and Saturday last, and excited more than usual interest, as the chances of the two elevens were believed to be so evenly balanced that at Lord's, on the night before the match commenced, slight odds were offered on whichever team won the toss. Fortune, as usual, favoured Eton in this respect, and the Light Blues were not disposed of till they had made 145, to which total F. M. Buckland (37) and H. E. Whitmore (not out, 29) were the chief contributors. Thanks chiefly to the capital batting of W. H. Long (36), F. L. Shand (36), and G. B. Walker (23), Harrow headed this score by one run, and the excitement rose higher than ever. Things looked black for Eton during the early part of the second innings, as she lost six good wickets for only 39 runs; but the fine play of F. Judd (38) and H. P. Alleyne (41) completely altered the aspect of affairs, and materially helped to swell a total of 166. The batting of P. F. Hadow (not out, 54) and P. E. Crutchley (49) proved too much for the Eton bowling, and Harrow won a grandly contested match by five wickets. The bowling of F. M. Buckland (Eton) and F. L. Shand (Harrow) was excellent, and they were credited with nine and eight wickets respectively. At the Oval, Lancashire defeated Surrey by 106 runs on Wednesday; and at Prince's Ground the Grenadiers achieved a victory over the Rest of the Brigade by 166 runs on the first innings. At the latter match a brilliant company was present, including the Princess of Wales and the Cesarevna.

Walton-on-Thames Regatta, one of the pleasantest aquatic gatherings of the season, took place on Saturday last. Some very good men had entered—notably Knollys and Trowers, who won the Senior Pairs from two Iro men, and W. L. Slater, who was, however, defeated by E. Connant, a very promising man, in the Senior Sculls. Mrs. Ingram, with her usual kindness, placed the grounds of Mount Felix at the disposal of the committee; and they were filled with a large and fashionable company. The prizes were presented at the conclusion of the regatta by Mrs. Lucas and Mrs. Lindsay. On Monday the trial-heat of the Wingfield Sculls was won by E. C. Dicker (Cambridge), who beat W. H. Eyre (Thames R. C.), and F. S. Gulston (London R. C.); and on Wednesday he disposed of C. C. Knollys (Oxford) with the greatest ease, and became a natural champion for the year.



THE VIENNA EXHIBITION: IN THE STYRIAN ALPINE HUT.

IN THE AUSTRIAN DAIRY.



THE VIENNA EXHIBITION: AT THE CARINTHIAN BIER-HALLE.

AT THE SWISS CONDITOREL.



EARTHQUAKE NEAR VENICE : RUINS OF THE CHURCH OF SAN PIETRO DI FERETTO.

EARTHQUAKE IN ITALY.

It does not often happen that the range of Italian earthquakes, having a violent and destructive character, extends northward. of Mount Vesuvius, which serves probably as a safety-valve. But the Venetian territory, round the head of the Adriatic, lying towards the feet of the Carnic Alps, was severely visited by such disturbance on Sunday week, and shocks were felt last Saturday in the neighbourhood of Rome at Frosinone and Alatri. In the former instance, both at Treviso and Belluno, which are situated almost due north of Venice, serious damage was done; at Belluno, amidst the "dolomite" mountains, four persons were killed and several much hurt. The waters of the Lake of Santa

Croce, near Belluno, boiled for several days. In four of the villages around Vittorio disasters occurred, by which fourteen lives were lost and many persons were injured, the shock taking effect here at five in the morning, when most of them were in bed in their houses. Two were killed at Torres, four at Curago, eleven at Puso, two at Visione, and one at Cavessago. But it was at Feretto, four or five miles from Conegliano, which is a town near the Piave river, two hours' journey by railway from Venice, that the greatest loss of life took place. In the Church of San Pietro di Feretto, at the celebration of early mass that Sunday morning, there was a congregation of 150 people. Three successive shocks of earthquake were felt; at the third shock down fell the roof and one side of the building. Thirty-

eight persons were killed and nearly eighty were more or less hurt, scarcely anyone escaping without some injury. The officiating priest had an arm broken, while his assistants were killed. In the course of that day all the bodies were got out the ruins; next day they were buried. Our view of the remains of the building is from a sketch by Mr. S. A. Douglas Volk, of Venice. He found the inside of the church filled with rubbish to the depth of four feet. The timber of the building was rotten and extremely frail. A shock was perceived at Venice, which caused some plaster to fall from the walls or roof in St. Mark's Cathedral, and excited a momentary panic. The city of Verona was also visited that day by two earthquake shocks, and several houses were damaged.



RESIDENCE OF THE BRITISH LEGATION AT TEHERAN.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent at Paris.)

Thursday, July 17.

The Shah is already beginning to pall upon the jaded palates of the fickle Parisians. They have said all they can say about him and his diamonds; have originated several witticisms, more or less apposite and more or less improper, at his expense; have stared, or rather tried their hardest to stare, him out of countenance; and are now quite willing that he should quit the stage of popular interest and give place to the next player who is to strut his little hour thereon. Who this next player will be is, of course, at present a mere matter of conjecture; but rumour for the thousandth time points to Marshal Bazaine, whose trial really seems likely to take place at last. There are, however, still a comparatively few Frenchmen who profess the deepest interest in all the movements of the Persian Monarch. These are the authors of the hundreds, if not thousands, of petitions for the order of the Lion and Sun which have been sent into the Palais Bourbon. National weaknesses will bear the test of anything, and, despite the ridicule so continuously heaped by the press and the drama upon the French mania for decorations, the numberless applications made to the Shah prove that this passion is still as strong under the Republic as ever it was in the days of the Empire.

As to the Shah himself, he seems to have enjoyed himself thoroughly, despite the prevailing coolness of his receptions in public. If he is unable, from want of cultivation, to appreciate fully that perfection of taste which the French, somehow by instinct, bring to bear upon all they essay in the way of decoration, the splendid weather, gay dresses, and generally superb effects of the spectacles that have been placed before him cannot fail to have struck home. After the review on Thursday he presented a sword to Marshal MacMahon as a token of esteem, and has subsequently bestowed the order of the Lion and Sun upon that distinguished soldier and also upon M. Buffet. On Friday he visited the well-known circus in the Champs Elysées, and subsequently inspected, by torchlight, the treasures of antique art contained in the sculpture galleries of the Louvre. If truth be told, he seems by all accounts to have been much more powerfully impressed by what he witnessed at the former than at the latter. On Saturday he visited Notre Dame and the Luxembourg, and in the evening paid the long-anticipated visit to the opera, where he was the occasion of two severe disappointments—grieving the audience by appearing without his diamonds, and the artistes by neglecting to pay a visit behind the scenes. It really seems as if this latter omission has been felt more severely than the former, for everyone is commenting upon it. On Sunday his Majesty went to Longchamps to view the races specially got up in his honour by the Jockey Club. The day was dull, and at one time the weather looked threatening, but fortunately held up, so that the latter part of the programme could be successfully carried out. This consisted in a grand *fête de nuit* on such a scale as has not been attempted here for a long time. The illumination of the Trocadero and the Champs Elysées was in the same style as on bygone fifteenth of August, but, in addition to the attractions of an incalculable number of white and coloured lamps lavished in every direction over these localities, there was a general display of stars and laurel-wreaths on the façades of the different public buildings, and of fireworks on the river, and a *retraite aux flambeaux*, or torchlight procession of military bands. All this was witnessed by the Shah from a pavilion erected on the summit of the Trocadero. On Monday his Majesty paid a visit to the Jardin des Plantes, the collection of which is still far from complete, and on Tuesday, after inspecting the Hôtel de la Monnaie, honoured Marshal MacMahon with his presence at a ball held at the Elysée. Yesterday, after holding a brief reception at the Palais Bourbon, he went to the Louvre, and has gone to-day to view the National Assembly.

The deputies, no doubt, will be on their best behaviour on this occasion; but it is almost to be regretted that his visit did not take place either on Saturday or Monday, on both of which days the sitting was of a character to have certainly astounded him. On the first of these occasions a bill for introducing trial by jury into the colonies led to a most stormy scene, which was only checked by the Vice-President leaving the chair, and was again enacted on the debate being resumed. On Wednesday M. Ernoul, the Minister of Justice, moved the prorogation of the Assembly on the 27th inst., and sought to introduce a bill giving to the Permanent Committee the power to institute immediate prosecutions for offences against the dignity of this body during the recess. The measure was ultimately carried, but not without the most strenuous opposition on the part of the Left and a very powerful speech from M. Gambetta, in which he paid some high compliments to the freedom of thought and speech enjoyed in England. The Shah's visit to Versailles to-day will probably be his last appearance in public here; for, as at present arranged, he starts for Vienna, via Geneva and Turin, to-morrow (Friday).

SPAIN.

Changes are about to take place in the personnel of the Spanish Government. On Wednesday the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Justice, and Finance resigned their portfolios in order to facilitate the formation of a homogeneous Cabinet, and it is reported that a majority of the Cortes have demanded the formation of an energetic Ministry under Salmeron. At a secret meeting of the Cortes on Tuesday it was resolved to proceed with the discussion of the Federal Constitution immediately, and hold two sittings daily till the subject has been disposed of.

Meanwhile the Carlists are actively engaged in combining their forces. The Carlist chief Saballs, at the head of 4000 men, has surprised and defeated, near Ripoli, a column 1000 strong under General Cabrinety. It is stated that General Cabrinety was killed and the greater portion of his force taken prisoners. Don Carlos re-entered Spain on Tuesday night, and has issued a proclamation to the Carlist volunteers.

A reign of terror seems to prevail in many parts of Spain, and the telegrams report a number of most atrocious outrages. Alcoy, an important manufacturing town in the province of Alicante, has been the scene of terrible barbarities; and there have been riots at Malaga, in the course of which some of the municipal councillors were killed.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

A telegram from Copenhagen states that Prince Arthur is expected to solicit the hand of Princess Thyra, the youngest daughter of the King of Denmark and sister of the Princess of Wales. The Princess is rather more than three years younger than Prince Arthur, and will complete her twentieth year on Sept. 29.

The *Dagblad* announces that the Gladau, of the Swedish expedition to the North Pole, which had been blocked by ice at Malinoe since Sept. 16, 1872, has arrived at Tromsøe.

RUSSIA.

Letters from Khiva, received at St. Petersburg, announce that the Khan has presented himself at the Russian camp, and

declared himself a vassal of the Czar. General Kaufmann has restored the Khan to his position of ruler, but has appointed a council of administration for the period of the Russians' stay in the Khanate. As a mark of gratitude for the consideration shown him, the Khan, on June 24, promulgated a manifesto abolishing slavery for ever. General Kaufmann has sent a despatch to Persia requesting that preparations be made to receive the Persian slaves who have been set free.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The Budget of the colony of Victoria was submitted to the Legislative Assembly on Thursday week. The revenue is estimated at £4,205,878, and the expenditure at £4,171,688, including nearly £1,000,000 for education and public works. The Treasury proposes to borrow £1,000,000 for railway extensions.

By a telegram from Melbourne, of the 9th inst., we learn that New Zealand is quiet, and that the latest salmon-breeding experiments have proved successful.

CHINA.

The Japanese Ambassadors and the Foreign Ministers had an audience of the Emperor of China, at Peking, on the morning of the 29th ult. The ceremonies were in the European style.

GREECE.

In the Chamber of Deputies a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry, proposed by the Opposition, has been defeated by a majority of six votes in favour of the Government.

A communication has reached Vienna that the Sultan will be unable to visit the Exhibition there owing to his presence being required in Constantinople by important State affairs.

We learn by a telegram from Hong-Kong that the inquiry into the loss of the steamer Bokhara has terminated, and that the captain is exonerated from blame.

A New York telegram states that the Mormons have abandoned the intention of removing to Arizona, the pioneer of the expedition having returned disheartened.

A Berlin letter states that a party of German savans are about to start on an expedition to explore the Libyan desert, the expense of which (£4000) is to be borne by the Khedive of Egypt.

It was recently announced that the Turkish Government intended to send some war-vessels to Sumatra. This news is now declared to be incorrect, and the Constantinople paper which published it is to be suspended.

The Simoom has sailed from Portsmouth for the seat of war on the West Coast of Africa, with several detachments of troops and a number of mountain howitzers; and the mail-steamer Congo follows from the Mersey, with war material and stores.

The Queen has approved the appointment of Mr. George Berkeley, late Lieutenant-Governor of St. Vincent and now Acting Administrator of Lagos, to be Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements.

The next mails for Australia and New Zealand will be dispatched from London as follow:—Via Southampton, on the morning of Thursday, July 31; via Brindisi, on the evening of Friday, Aug. 8.

A telegram has been received in Berlin announcing that the English steamer conveying the German exploring expedition to Congo has been wrecked off Sierra Leone, with the loss of all the effects and scientific instruments on board, but no lives.

The competition at the Paris Ecole des Beaux Arts for the Grand Prix de Rome has resulted as follows:—The first prize was awarded to M. Puget, a pupil of M. Victor Massé; the second prize to M. Hillemacher, and "honourable mention" to M. Corbaz-Marmontel, pupils of M. François Bazin.

An adjourned meeting of shareholders in the Jersey Joint-Stock Bank was held yesterday week, at which a report was presented, showing liabilities to the extent of £135,000, with assets amounting to £100,000. A vote of censure on the directors was proposed, but was outvoted.

The Assembly of the Cape of Good Hope has passed a bill for the establishment of a university in that colony, and the Council has affirmed a resolution of the Assembly authorising the Government to spend £26,000 in promoting the immigration into the Cape of British artisans and labourers.

The expectation that the Inman steamer City of Washington might be got off the Gull Rock Bar, on which she had struck, has not been fulfilled. A telegram from Halifax announces that the vessel has broken in two. An inquiry has been opened at Halifax into the loss of the steamer.

A Zanzibar letter states that the Livingstone Search Expedition, under Lieutenant Cameron, was last heard of at Ugogo. Young Moffat, who accompanied the party, has fallen a victim to the dangers of African travel, which his distinguished relative has so long survived.

The young Maharajah of Joudhpore has offered the Cawnpore Memorial Church Committee to present them, from his quarries at Mahrana, with the whole of the white marble required to pave the chancel and apse of the church, and to convey it to Cawnpore ready to be placed. This princely gift, which is entirely spontaneous, is accompanied with an expression of his Highness's admiration of the "heroic gallantry and resignation of those who lost their lives at Cawnpore in the eventful year of 1857." The Maharajah's father was conspicuous at that time in putting himself in front of the movement which confirmed the chiefs of Rajpootana in their allegiance to the British Government.

On the despatch-vessel Helicon stopping, recently, at Chanak, in the Dardanelles, to inquire for letters, she received intelligence from Rhodes, dated June 16, that a volcanic eruption had occurred in the island of Niseros, one of the Sporades, on the site of an extinct volcano. About the 10th new craters burst forth, ejecting ashes, stones, and lava, and covering the ground to a considerable extent; but hitherto, happily, no loss of life had occurred. Numerous crevices had been formed in the sides of the mountain, from which hot water flowed. The island was daily being shaken by earthquakes, causing the greatest alarm to the inhabitants. The shocks did not extend to the surrounding islands; but the smoke from the crater was plainly seen from Rhodes, fifty miles distant.

The Devastation made her gunnery trials, on Wednesday, off Spithead, with the utmost success.

To commemorate the establishment of a new Liberal Club at Nottingham, a banquet was given, on Wednesday evening, in the Mechanics' Hall, at which the Duke of St. Albans presided over about 600 of the borough and county electors. There were present Lord Cowper, the Marquis of Hartington, and many influential members of the House of Commons.

A fatal accident has occurred at a school at Romsey to a child of the Prince and Princess de Vismes, similar to that which recently befell one of the Queen's grandchildren. The little boy, who was four years old, was looking out of an upstairs window when a protecting iron gave way, and he fell some twenty feet, and died a few hours after the accident.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Bank rate was on Thursday reduced from 5 per cent, to which it was lowered on the 10th inst., to 4½.

Sir A. Clarke, the Governor Elect of the Straits Settlements, has been entertained at the London Tavern by his friends.

Mr. Henry Graves, of Pall-mall, has presented to the Royal Caledonian Asylum a number of fine proof engravings, illustrating Scottish subjects, and worth more than 100 guineas.

The rewards given by the Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire were distributed, on Tuesday afternoon, by the Lord Mayor, in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall.

The annual meeting of the Newsvenders' Benevolent and Provident Institution was held, on Tuesday evening, at Willis's Rooms. There was a large attendance.

At a meeting, on Wednesday, of the shareholders of the London and Westminster Bank, the sum of £5025 16s. was appropriated as a gift to the clerks of that establishment.

The fourth flower show of the season at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens—being almost exclusively confined to pelargoniums—was held on Wednesday and Thursday.

Four additional wards of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic have been opened. All the rooms are fitted up with neatness, and indications of comfort are to be seen throughout the whole establishment.

Yesterday week the Lady Mayoress gave a ball at the Mansion House. The guests numbered about 800.—Her Majesty's Ministers have accepted invitations by the Lord Mayor to a dinner at the Mansion House on the 30th inst.

The Marquis of Lorne presided, yesterday week, at the annual meeting of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, and spoke with hearty admiration of its management and of the advantages offered to its members.

The Marquis of Bute lectured, on Monday night, on the "Shrines of the Holy Land." His Lordship avoided all controversial matter, and simply gave his experiences of Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem.

The portraits of the late Earl of Derby and Lord Mayo, which were commissioned of Captain Mercier by the Committee of the Junior Carlton Club, are finished, and have received the approbation of the relatives and former colleagues of the deceased noblemen.

The Metropolitan Board of Works, in compliance with recommendations of the finance committee, has agreed to advance £7000 to the St. Pancras Vestry for paving works, and £37,000 to enable the Marylebone Vestry to effect an improvement in Little James-street and Charles-street, Lisson-grove.

The Dowager Marchioness of Westminster has paid in to the account of the Corps of Commissioners, at their bankers, £4666, being the whole of the amount necessary to clear off the debt on the Burgoyne buildings. The noble donor had previously given £1000 to the fund.

Mr. Eaton, favourably known in connection with the recent explorations in Palestine, has been appointed secretary of the Royal Academy, and Mr. Pickersgill (a nephew of the R.A. of that name) keeper, in the room of Messrs. Knight and Landseer, who have retired on pensions equivalent to the salaries formerly received by them.

The Common Council of the City elected a Town Clerk on Thursday. The successful candidate was Mr. John Braddick Monckton, solicitor, of Lincoln's-inn-fields; the one nearest to him was Mr. Edward Besley, barrister, of the Central Criminal Court and Middlesex Sessions. There were several other candidates, of whom the only one that approached Mr. Besley and Mr. Monckton was Mr. Moir, likewise a barrister.

A tessellated pavement has been discovered, seven feet below the street level, on the site of some old buildings recently pulled down on the north side of Bishopsgate-street Within. Its proximity to the surface would indicate a period late in the Roman occupation. It has been seen by members of the London and Middlesex Archeological Society, and a record of its existence will thus be preserved.

A commemoration festival of the London Orphan Asylum was held at the new institution at Watford, on Saturday, on the occasion of its completing the sixtieth year of its labours. On the same day was held the summer fête of the Home for Little Boys, at Farningham; while at Addlestone, where a village home has been founded under the patronage of the Duchess of Teck, the first stones of three additional cottages were laid.

At a meeting of the Court of Common Council, on Thursday, a letter from Mr. Gladstone was read, offering the honour of a baronetcy to the Lord Mayor in connection with the Shah's visit to the City and the splendid reception which was accorded to his Majesty. At the same time the honour of knighthood was tendered to Mr. Alderman White and Mr. Sheriff Perkins, the Sheriffs. The communications were received with loud cheers.

The first report of the Council of the Royal Albert Hall has been issued. The members are congratulated on the success which has attended the concerts of the Amateur Orchestral Society, and on the maintenance of the Sunday organ performances. The report expresses the belief of the council that a balance of £5726 against the capital account on the year's operations will be removed when the proceeds of the Shah's reception are placed to the credit of the revenue account.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 99,004; of whom 33,086 were in workhouses and 66,008 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in the years 1872, 1871, and 1870, these figures show a decrease of 3417, 21,575, and 28,517 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 491, of whom 326 were men, 140 women, and 25 children under sixteen.

The railing surrounding St. Paul's Cathedral is known to have been erected contrary to the opinion of Sir Christopher Wren, and its removal, as contemplated, will much improve the view of the beautiful exterior of the church. The proposal to throw the whole of the paved area before the western front into the public roadway seems, however, to be a mistake. To do so will be no advantage to the traffic at that point, and the space will certainly be appropriated in a way not calculated to maintain the dignity of the metropolitan cathedral.

Last Saturday one of seventy-three schools which the London School Board contemplate erecting for the accommodation of 102,000 children was opened, in the presence of most of the members of the board and many visitors. The new school occupies a central position in the densely-populated districts of Shoreditch, Bethnal-green, and Whitechapel. Addresses were delivered by Lord Lawrence, the chairman of the board; Mr. C. Reed, M.P., the vice-chairman and chairman of the committee of works; Mr. Morley, M.P.; and other gentlemen.

The new east architectural court at the South Kensington Museum, which was begun some six years ago, when the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos was Lord President, as part of a plan which provided for another court of equal height on the west side of the museum, has been opened. The court has cost £24,800, of which sum £32,000 was for the structure and £2800 for the decorations; and the collection is probably the finest ever brought together in any European city.

The Court of Common Council has received from one of its committees a report on the Emmanuel Hospital scheme, as approved by her Majesty. After reciting the various failures before the Commission and in Parliament to obtain modifications of the scheme, it concluded by regretting that the Commissioners had thought fit to make so violent a change in the administration of Lady Dacre's charity. A special court will be called for the election of governors.

An influential meeting was held at Willis's Rooms, yesterday week, to take steps for recognising the public services of Mr. Henry Cole, C.B., on his retirement from the direction of the South Kensington Museum. The Marquis of Westminster presided, and amongst the speakers, in addition to the noble chairman, were the Duke of Sutherland, Earl Granville, Lord Houghton, Lord Clarence Paget, Sir M. D. Wyatt, Mr. George Godwin, Mr. Horsley, R.A., and Mr. C. Minton Campbell. An executive committee was appointed.

The conference held, on Monday, between the committee of master builders and deputations from the masons and carpenters, with the object of effecting a peaceful settlement of the existing dispute, unfortunately ended in failure.—At a meeting held in Westminster-chambers, on Wednesday—Mr. B. Hannen, the chairman of the Central Association of Master Builders, presiding—it was resolved to establish an association of employers in the building trade throughout the country for the general protection of its members.

The Wellington monument for St. Paul's continues to make very slow progress, judging by Mr. Lowe's answer to a question put by Mr. Goldsmid in the House of Commons. The special engagement of Mr. Coleman (in the place of Mr. Penrose) to look after the execution of the work by Mr. A. Stevens, the sculptor, does not appear to have been productive of any marked benefit. On June 7, the date of the last report, "Mr. Stevens was convalescent, and again at work on the monument"—an announcement which was received in the House with a laugh. "The whole marble work was now finished, but the sculpture had not made much progress." It was, however, reported last year that the architectural or marble work was then ready for erection, or nearly so, and the (bronze) sculpture would probably be completed this year. Now it is merely "hoped" that the monument will be finished by the end of 1874!

There were 2217 births and 1181 deaths registered in London last week, the former being 13 and the latter 320 below the average. The Registrar-General says:—"The fatality from diarrhoea is increasing; the deaths referred to this disease, which in the two previous weeks had been 22 and 63, further rose to 100 last week, which was, however, 75 below the corrected average number for the corresponding week in the last ten years. Of the hundred deaths from diarrhoea, 78 were of infants under one year of age. To simple cholera 6 deaths were referred, 3 of infants under one year and 3 of adults." There were 3 deaths from smallpox, 24 from measles, 6 from scarlet fever, 5 from diphtheria, 36 from whooping-cough, and 20 from different forms of fever. The fatal cases of whooping-cough, measles, and scarlet fever were less numerous than in recent weeks. Seven deaths were caused by street accidents.

THE WIMBLEDON PRIZE MEETING.

Amongst the competition of Thursday week was the match between the Lords and the Commons. The representatives of the Peerage were the Earl of Denbigh, the Earl of Kingston, Earl Ducie, and Lord Cloncurry, with the Marquis of Lorne, who had been taken from the Commons' reserves in order to equalise the list. The members of the Lower House who shot in the match were Lord Bury, Mr. Arthur Vivian, Mr. Arthur Bass, Mr. Malcolm, and Mr. Fordyce. The Lords made 252 points and the Commons 262. The latter were thus victorious by ten points. The first stage of the Queen's prize was closely contested. The name of Corporal Willows, of the 4th Lincoln, heads the list, and he wins the silver medal and a purse of £60. He was closely run by Wace, of the Hon. Artillery Regiment, and Lister, of the Bradford Rifles.

One of the events of Friday was the decision of the Prince of Wales's prize, for which Private J. S. Hall, 18th Lincoln, and Private Boyd, of Ayr, tied with 69 points each. The first stage of the competition for the St. George's Challenge Vase was decided, and the vase and gold jewel, together with thirty dragon sovereigns, passed into the hands of Sergeant Tildesley, of the 1st Bedfordshire, who made the splendid score of 28 in seven shots at 500 yards; while Sergeant Aken, of Liverpool, and Captain Humphrys, a former Queen's prizeman, marked 27 each. In the course of the competition for the Curtis and Harvey prize, at 200 yards, Corporal Brooke, of the 1st Devon, made 28, the highest possible score. Private Elton, of the 12th Middlesex, had a similar success in the Eley prize; and Private Davies, 1st Salop, in the firing for the Snider Association Cup. The Martin's Challenge Cup competition was concluded. Private Dunlop, who is first, takes the challenge cup and £20. Lieutenant-Colonel Rimington, 2nd London, won the chief Alexandra prize.

Several leading events were decided on Saturday last. There was a large attendance of visitors, and among them were the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Lord Chancellor and Lady Selborne, and Lord Cairns. The chief attraction was the match for the International Snider Trophy. Colonel Peters, of the Canadian Rifles, who acted as umpire, declared the result as follows:—England, 1180; Scotland, 1168; Ireland, 1072. Major Waller, of the St. George's, made the highest score in the winning team—70 points—and also the highest in the match. The contest amongst the county teams for the China Cup resulted in a victory for Nottingham with 333 points. For the Belgian Challenge Cup, for volley-firing, the 26th Middlesex (the Customs and Docks corps) made 196 points, and were declared the winners. The ties in the St. George's Challenge Vase competition were shot off after some of the best scores had been disqualified, and the result is that Ingram (1st Lanark) takes the silver jewel and £25, in the first stage, and Corporal Hemery, of Cambridge University, the Dragon Cup, in the second stage. The first prize in the Secretary of State for War series was won by McCreath, 5th Ayr (Beith), who made 26 points at 900 yards with a Henry rifle. The other rifles used which took prizes were the Swinburne-Henry, Martini-Henry-Metford, and the Snider. The first prize given by the National Arms Company was also taken by a Henry rifle by Burgess, of Newcastle, with 27 points in seven shots at 800 yards. Livesay (Sussex) and Humphry (Cambridge University) made like scores with the Martini-Henry. The Martin's Challenge Cup for marksmen went to Mr. Dunlop, C.B.,

London Scottish, who made 26 in seven shots at 600 yards with the Snider.

On Sunday morning religious services took place in the Umbrella Tent, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Macdougall, the Rector of Godmanchester, to the volunteers and a large congregation of the general public. Rain fell all day and reduced the camp to the condition of a swamp. In the afternoon a gale arose and blew down the Umbrella Tent, happily without inflicting any serious injury on the few persons underneath. The attendance of visitors was very small.

The camp rapidly recovered from the havoc effected by Sunday's storm, and Monday's firing proceeded steadily. Lieutenant Earl Waldegrave, of the London Brigade, secured the Rifle Oaks prize, with a score of 27, out of a possible 28. In the first stage of the Albert prize Lieutenant Menzies, of the 1st Edinburgh, and Mr. Gould Smith, of Bristol, made the same score at both ranges; and their aggregate of 70 was not repeated, though several 69s appear on the list. Captain Burt, Colonel Malcolm, M.P., Mr. J. Rigby, Mr. Boyd, and Mr. Joyce were the winners of the ladies' prizes. The ties for the Snider Association Cup have been shot off. Sergeant Clark, Queen's Edinburgh; Colour-Sergeant Tildesley, 1st Bedfordshire; Private Davies, 1st Salop; Corporal Mullineux, 40th Lancashire; and Private Wilson, Queen's Westminster, shooting at a carton target at 200 yards, made a centre each the first round; the second round Clark and Tildesley obtained a carton each; the third Clark made a carton (which counts five), and took the prize. Tildesley only obtained a centre.

The final stage of the Queen's prize competition, on Tuesday, was much retarded by the heavy showers of rain which ominously inaugurated St. Swithin's Day. At the 800 yards Private Baker, of the 1st Gloucester, had the lead with a fine score of 25. At the 900 yards he was passed by Corporal Pullman, of the 2nd Middlesex, whose aggregate was 47, Baker's being 45, and Sergeant Archibald Menzies, of the 1st Edinburgh, making a good third with 43. At the 1000 yards Baker and Pullman tied with 59, and Menzies beat them by one, making the top score 60. The marking of Corporal Pullman's last two shots, both misses, occasioned some inquiry at the council tent. The Queen's prizeman was borne off to head-quarters on the shoulders of his "brither Scots." He is a brother of Captain Menzies, a well-known shot, and of two other gentlemen holding official rank in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Sergeant Archibald Menzies, who is now about twenty years of age, first appeared at a public rifle competition in the All-Comers' Association meeting in the Scottish capital last year. He is a law student. The match between the public schools for the beautiful Ashburton Challenge Shield was decided. The schools which sent eleven were Winchester, Harrow, Marlborough, Cheltenham, Eton, Rugby, and Derby. It was a bitter disappointment to the Harrow boys when their splendid shooting at the 500 yards failed of success, and the last two centres scored for Winchester made this school the winners for the third year. The Spencer Cup, which is shot for by the highest scorer in each team, was won for Eton by Sergeant Mellish. The grand aggregate prize has now been decided. It is taken by Colour-Sergeant Kirk, who was before this disqualified for an alleged wrong return in the Alexandra, a competition which enters into the calculations for the aggregate prize. Corporal Willows, of the 4th Lincoln, would, had the disqualification of Mr. Kirk been upheld, have taken the £50 awarded for the best aggregate. The Snider Wimbledon Cup, at 600 yards, 40 marks the highest possible score, has been gained by Mr. Cortis, 1st A.B. Sussex, with 33 points. The first stage of the Army and Navy Challenge Cup, with money prizes to the value of £155, was decided. At 500 yards Privates Harris, 34th Regiment, and Holloway, 1st battalion 7th, made 36 out of a possible 40, and gain £7 10s. each. In the course of the shooting for the Bass prizes, Mr. Dunlop, London Scottish, made, at 500 yards, 23, the highest possible score. Privates M. Verrall, 4th Sussex, and Wade, 1st Lancashire, made 27 each, at 500 yards, for the Licensed Victuallers' prize.

Though one of the pleasantest shooting days yet experienced at Wimbledon, Wednesday was dull enough at the targets. For the Irish International Challenge Trophy, Scotland's champion, Private W. Clark, of Edinburgh, scored 65; Private Hynes, for Ireland, 59; and Major Waller, for England, 59. The trophy therefore goes to Scotland this year. Private Harris, of the 34th Regiment, carried off the Army and Navy Challenge Cup; and Mr. Arthur, of Birmingham, the Arthur prize, with a score of 38. In the match between the two Universities for the Chancellor's Plate, the victory fell to the representatives of Oxford, who scored six points over their opponents. The Albert prize, second stage, £100, was gained by Private Sprott, 1st Lancashire; the Ladies' Snider prize, 500 yards, is taken by Corporal Mayfield. For the Any Rifle Wimbledon Cup, at 1000 yards, Private Ward, of Cheshire, Quarter-master-Sergeant Cortis, 1st A. B. Sussex, and Ensign Smyth, 3rd Lanark, tied. For the Licensed Victuallers' prize, at 500 yards, excellent scores were made, Mr. Grundy, 1st Notts, and Mr. Arrowsmith, Bristol, heading the score with 28 each, and sharing £15 between them. There were eight who scored 27. General Eyre's prize of £100 was won this year by the Royal Marines, but the prize does not pass unless it is won again by the same corps. Meantime, Sergeants Keen and Whitehead take £5 each.

The competition for the Elcho Shield took place on Thursday (between eight men for each country, from England, Ireland, and Scotland), and was won by Ireland, with 1195 points—England scoring 1175 and Scotland 1128. The Rajah of Kolapore's Cup, for which eight of the Canadians competed, was also in the programme.

Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck, will present the prizes this (Saturday) afternoon; and the review and march past will follow.

The annual meeting of the East of Scotland Artillery Association took place at Barry Links, near Monifieth, on Saturday last. The Dysart detachment gained the first prize.

Mr. Mechi's farm at Tiptree Hall, Essex, is open to inspection by those who are interested in agricultural production, and will remain so until harvest, which will commence early in August.

A monster fête was held on Tuesday, in Blenheim Park, the seat of the Duke of Marlborough, in aid of the widows' and orphans' fund of the Great Western and Bristol and Exeter Railways' Provident Society.

Mr. Justice Blackburn began, on Tuesday, the hearing of the petition against the return of Mr. W. K. Wait for Gloucester. The specific charges laid include bribery, treating, undue influence, and impersonation.

The council of King's College, London, have elected Dr. John Curnow to the chair of anatomy, vacant by the death of the late Professor Partridge, F.R.S.—The distribution of the annual prizes at King's College School will take place on Tuesday, July 29, at two o'clock, when the Lord Mayor will take the chair.

NEW BOOKS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's celebrated but, no doubt, ironical phrase concerning the working classes does duty for the title of *Our New Masters*, by Thomas Wright, the "Journeyman Engineer" (Strahan and Co.). The author would like the public to know that, although nearly all, if not all, the contents of his volume have already appeared in the pages of certain periodicals, he nevertheless had, from the very first, contemplated a systematic book, and has not gathered together into a heterogeneous collection a quantity of disconnected articles, simply because there were enough of them to fill a certain number of pages. The author, struck by the ignorance generally exhibited as to what manner of men the working classes are by the other classes of society, thought it would be found useful if he, himself one of "our new masters," were to publish some information of a trustworthy sort, as being founded upon personal knowledge, "setting forth what manner of men they were, how their class was composed, what views they really did and what they did not entertain on the more prominent 'questions of the day,' and wherein lay their strength and weakness." Hence this volume, very creditable to a "working man" as a specimen of temperate feeling, sound judgment, practical views, and literary composition. A great many readers, however, will fail to see how "our new masters" are placed in any new and striking light, or how any pregnant facts, hitherto undreamed of, are revealed concerning them. Most people, one would say, are and have long been perfectly aware that the "working classes" are divided into dissentient and dissimilar sections; that they are used by political agitators as a mere stalking-horse; that their condition is not regarded by themselves as satisfactory or by others, unless, perhaps, by a few enthusiastic Conservatives after dinner, as reassuring in respect of the future; that their political power, overwhelming as it might and perhaps will some day be, is at present almost "chaotic and useless" for want of proper leaders and proper organisation; that they have some and morbidly invent and imagine other grievances; that they are for the most part inclined towards Republicanism through sheer discontent, just as they would, probably, under a Republican form of government, cry out, as the Israelites cried of old, "Nay, but we will have a king to reign over us;" that they have no truly representative organ amongst the newspapers, which, nevertheless, pretend to represent them; and that, in fine, the "Journeyman Engineer" has a great deal to say about them which is true rather than new, but which is sufficiently important to bear and even require to be constantly pressed, upon public attention, especially when the task is performed by so competent an authority as the "Journeyman Engineer." One of the most amusing, though at the same time shocking, articles is that which is entitled "The Press and the People," and in which plentiful examples are given of the coarse, vituperative, disloyal, and utterly abominable writing in the highest favour amongst "our new masters."

It is not our habit to notice books of theological or anti-theological controversy; but Dr. Strauss's recent essay, *The Old Faith and the New*, which has been skilfully translated into English by Miss Mathilde Blind (Messrs. Asher and Co.), was announced by Mr. Gladstone, in his speech at Liverpool, the other day, as a work of some importance on the wrong side. We believe that this estimate of its polemical force is greatly exaggerated, and that nobody who has a fair acquaintance with the old stock arguments for and against Christianity will find anything new in Dr. Strauss's latest performance. Bishop Butler and Archdeacon Paley have, indeed, bequeathed to their countrymen a sufficient antidote for the distressing malady of rash denial which has afflicted so many German philosophers since the time of those sound-minded English divines. The most agreeable part of Dr. Strauss's book is the appendix, which consists of a dissertation on the poetry of Goethe and Schiller, and the music of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven. But what has this to do with the grave questions, "Are we still Christians?" "Have we a Religion?" "What is our Conception of the Universe?" and "What is our Rule of Life?" We are rather at a loss to understand the motive of Dr. Strauss in attaching these criticisms of literary and artistic genius to his dry and dreary treatise of the Cosmic Evolution, which he prefers to a God. The great poets and composers of Germany never belonged to his ungenial sect, and he cannot pretend to claim a monopoly in the enjoyment of their noble works.

The copious *Life of John Sebastian Bach*, in two volumes, by Dr. C. H. Bitter, published in Germany a few years ago, has been turned to good account in an abridged English translation recently issued by Messrs. Houlston and Sons. The adaptation has been skilfully and carefully made by Miss Janet E. Kay-Shuttleworth. In this reduced shape the leading features in the career of the great contemporary of Handel are given with sufficient fulness for ordinary readers, and the volume is supplemented by a valuable catalogue, in detail, of the vast collection of Bach's works, most of which have only been made known within recent years, many of them largely through the exertions of the German Bach Society. The book is further rendered special by a preface contributed by Sir Julius Benedict, in which this distinguished musician expatiates on the bright example offered by the great master of the past, and concludes with the expression of a hope that it may inspire the young votaries of art with the desire of treading in his path.

Musical students, both professional and amateur, will find much valuable instruction in a comprehensive treatise on harmony, counterpoint, and composition, compiled by Mr. H. C. Banister, under the general title of *Music*, and published by Messrs. Deighton, Bell, and Co., of Cambridge. The compiler's object has been, as stated in his preface, "to supply the want, long expressed, of a compendious manual of musical knowledge for the use of candidates for middle-class examination in connection with the Universities, &c." The work consists of three principal divisions, each of which is subdivided into chapters treating in detail of the subjects of notation, time, rhythm, harmony, counterpoint, and composition. A supplemental glossary of terms used in music adds to the value of the book.

A book written with a purpose is *Adamantia; the Truth about the South African Diamond Fields*, by Captain Augustus F. Lindley (W. H. and L. Collingridge); and the purpose is "to inform the British Parliament and the British public how their Government has robbed the Orange Free State (one of the two South African Republics) of its diamond fields." It, therefore, belongs to the category of controversial books, towards which the most impartial justice is done when their existence merely is notified, so that those persons who have the time, the inclination, and the requisite amount of technical knowledge, may examine for themselves the points in dispute. The author seems to be haunted by a misgiving to the effect that the "plain terms" he has sometimes employed may not meet with general approval; but he defends himself on the ground that what he has said is true. There are several diagrams to assist the reader.



NATIONS OF WESTERN ASIA: PEOPLE OF GEORGIA.



THE SHAH IN PARIS: RECEPTION AT THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE BY THE PREFECT OF THE SEINE AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

It can hardly be said that the situation in the Legislature is wholly abnormal; for always in July there are heat and pressure and fluster, and horribly late sittings, and hopeless but resolute clinging to the idea by everyone that work enough to occupy two Sessions will be got through in three weeks. But this time there seems to be unusual worry and fuss. Private members deliberately go on endeavouring to have their motions aired at impossible hours of the night and morning; second readings of bills are moved as calmly as if they would ever be heard of again this year; and, worst of all, the Government does much the same thing. They, too, have important bills, which are sure to be the subject of fierce contest, only in their very earliest stages, and no symptoms are given of sacrificial intent with regard to them. But, worst of all, there have been nearly a party crisis and a collision between the two Houses of the Legislature. True, it has been averted, but in a manner which has covered the Prime Minister with confusion of face, has made Mr. Disraeli radiant, and Lord Cairns presumably jubilant.

To descend to particulars. The second stage of the dispute—if a set of proceedings which were, so to speak, founded on the anonymous (that is, in defiance of the rule which prescribes that each House knows nothing of the goings on of the other, except by means of the official papers which they interchange), can be so called—was interesting; for Mr. Gladstone came forward and made a very remarkable speech, the substance of which was that some authorities were of opinion that Lord Cairns was right in his assertion of a breach of the privileges of the Lords in the matter of the transfer of Scotch and Irish appeals to the new Appellate Court in the Judicature Bill. Nevertheless, he himself was constant in an opinion that it was an undue assumption. Of course everyone expected that, after this, a resolve to struggle and do battle would be announced. Quite the contrary. With many honeyed phrases about harmony and courtesy and conciliation, and sweet counsel between the two Houses, the Premier signified that he would assuage the wrath of Lord Cairns by sending back the bill merely with certain indications, well understood by the initiated, that their Lordships might do a gracious thing by enacting the change themselves. The cause of all the mischief, Mr. Bouverie, grimly smiling, agreed that the claim of privilege was naught, but held that the enactments which he himself had suggested should be thrown over for the year. Having watched the proceedings with intentness, not overt indeed, but careful, Mr. Disraeli struck in and gave forth one of his subtle speeches, in which he manages to damage and ridicule, without committing himself to anything, his position being ticklish, as he had to reconcile his co-operation with Lord Cairns with his own avowed reverence for the privileges of the House of Commons. It seemed as if Mr. Vernon Harcourt had foreseen the circumstances which had arisen, for he came out with a speech which was one of full preparedness, teeming with recondite illustrations and quotations, and which was a masterpiece of irony, in regard to the way in which he pretended to praise both Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli for their faithful devotion to the maintenance of the privileges of the Commons, which was not exactly what they were doing.

However, the matter was not, as was supposed, settled yet. On a subsequent day the arrangement made by the Government cropped up, and there was hot talk, and Mr. Bouverie hovered in his stormy petrel way over the discussion, and advised and suggested from a total yielding point of view; and Mr. Gladstone refined and used sophistical arguments, and endeavoured to conceal his real desire to do anything to get rid of the whole business, so that the Judicature bill was safe. At a critical moment Mr. Disraeli came in with a tremendous oration, which, in many parts laboured and long-drawn out, was in others brilliant and flashy, and all through subtle and crafty in a more eminent degree than his former address. Nothing could have been happier than his quizzing of Mr. Vernon Harcourt for some communications to a newspaper on the subject in hand, the effect not being spoiled by the fact that he was talking of the wrong man, as that was not known until the next day. At length, with a look of painful anxiety on his face, Mr. Gladstone signified that he had gathered the feeling of the House to be that the (to Lord Cairns) obnoxious clauses had better be foregone; that he would consult his colleagues and tell the House his resolve next day. Everyone knew that the result was a foregone conclusion, so that on the following day, when the announcement was to be made, there was no great gathering of members, though some people believed that Mr. Gladstone would seize the opportunity to retort on Mr. Disraeli some of the many gibes and taunts and ridicule which he had showered on the leader of the House *eo nomine*. But, for once, discretion prevailed; and in the fewest possible sentences Mr. Gladstone told that he had given way, that the disputed provisions would disappear, and that he would take an incomplete Judicature Bill rather than risk the loss of a complete one; and so this doughty and exciting episode came to a close.

There have been some special features in the proceedings of the Commons. Notably the House has been sitting till four o'clock in the morning on more than one occasion. There is a conventional term in Parliament to the effect that nothing is so unimportant as a Turnpike Bill, and yet now even such a measure has caused a controversy so fierce that time, day and night and their alternations, have been disregarded, and the contest resolved itself into one of physical strength and endurance, for it is nothing else when the proceedings consist only of a long-continued series of divisions up to the hours when the sunlight streams fully into the chamber. Something of the effect of these protracted sittings is to be found in the difficulty of making Houses at twelve o'clock on Wednesdays—once, at least, that process not being completed until past one in the afternoon.

One day, as soon as the House had assembled, Mr. Mitchell-Henry rose, and, exercising a curious privilege appertaining to every individual member, said, using the technical Parliamentary phrase, "I spy strangers in the House." Instantly everyone included in that phrase was bundled out, and the doors were closed. Some who may be called benevolent Parliamentary fairies took the trouble to reveal what occurred during the continuance of the secret conclave, and it seems that Mr. Mitchell-Henry complained that the Irish members, and he in particular, were not adequately reported, and something must be done to correct an evil more growing every day. No doubt it must be trying to so painstaking and anxious a member as Mr. Mitchell-Henry to find that he appears before his constituents and the public only in little in the journals; but it must be understood that there are other considerations influencing those who have debates reported, besides the collection and dissemination of parliamentary eloquence; that it is possible that there may be matter abroad more interesting to the general public than discussions on local or personal grievances in the House; and that sometimes a column of advertisements has a prettier and at the same time a more solid look than the like quantity of speech which is not exactly oratory.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Friday, the 11th, Lord Halifax informed the Duke of Somerset that the Government intended to ask Parliament to vote a sum necessary to maintain the breakwater and other works at Alderney. After Lord Granville had answered a question as to the boundary between the Persian and Turkish territories, the House went into Committee on the Law Agents (Scotland) Bill. Lord Colonsay moved the insertion of a clause exempting Writers to the Signet from the necessity of passing the examination prescribed by the bill for admission to practice as law agents, on the ground that they had previously passed a higher examination. Although supported by the Duke of Richmond and Lord Cairns, the clause was negatived by 46 against 39 votes. Several amendments having been inserted, on the motion of Lord Colonsay, the bill passed through Committee. The Canada Loan Guarantee Bill was passed.

The subjects of the military situation at Cape Coast Castle, the confessional in the Established Church, and the Concession to Baron Reuter in Persia were discussed on Monday. The Public Schools (Eton College Property) Bill was read the second time; and the Tithe Commutation Acts Amendment Bill, the National Debt Commissioners (Annuities) Bill, and the Prison Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill were passed.

On Tuesday the report of the Law Agents (Scotland) Bill was received; the subjects of the services of medical officers on the West Coast of Africa, and the importation of coolies to Cuba, were considered; the Public Works Loan Commissioners (School and Sanitary Loan) Bill and the Militia (Service, &c.) Bill were read the second time; and the Colonial Church Bill was read the third time and passed.

On Thursday the Elementary Education Provisional Order Confirmation (No. 3) Bill, the Court of Queen's Bench, Ireland (Grand Juries) Bill, and the Public Works Loan Commissioners (School and Sanitary Loans) Bill passed through Committee. The Railway and Canal Traffic Bill was brought up, and the Commons' amendment to the Lords' amendments agreed to. The Law Agents (Scotland) Bill was read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

An unusual incident took place on Friday, the 11th. Mr. Mitchell Henry drew the Speaker's attention to the presence of "strangers" in the House, and, in accordance with a standing rule, the House was cleared of all but members and officers. It is understood that Mr. Henry then complained of the manner in which many members, and especially Irish members, were systematically treated by the reporters, who either misreported or did not report their remarks at all, and thus made them appear ridiculous to their constituents. Mr. Bouverie objected to the purpose to which Mr. Henry had put the privilege of the House, as did also Mr. Gladstone in a mild way. Mr. Whalley was proceeding to complain of his own treatment, which he attributed to the religious creed of the reporters, when he was called to order by the Speaker, who gave it as his opinion that the House was in favour of the readmission of the strangers. The doors were accordingly reopened. Mr. Gladstone having assured Mr. Bouverie that Mr. O'Keefe would receive the benefit of the new rule suggested by Lord Hartington and adopted by the Irish National Board of Education, the hon. member stated that he would not proceed with his motion on the Callan schools. The Judicature Bill was resumed in Committee at clause 75, which relates to the personal officers of future Judges. The whole clauses proper, up to 94, were passed, and the postponed clauses entered upon. An amendment of the Attorney-General on clause 31, by which the business of the Court of Bankruptcy would be transferred from the Court of Chancery to the Court of Exchequer, was discussed, divided upon, and carried by 114 to 70. At the evening sitting Colonel Lindsay called attention to the state of the volunteer force, and some discussion followed, in which Lord Elcho supported the conscription. The subject ultimately dropped. Mr. Macie not being in his place to move his colonial waste lands proposal, Mr. Whalley proceeded to call attention to the "law relating to contempt of court," when the House was counted out.

The Judicature Bill was passed through Committee on Monday, and a long debate ensued as to whether the amendments relating to the transfer of Scotch and Irish appeals to the new Appellate Court should be persevered in, Mr. Gladstone promising to consider what course should be pursued. The report was fixed for Thursday. The Turnpike Trusts Continuance Bill was passed through Committee, Lord G. Cavendish having withdrawn the instruction for the compulsory adoption of the Highways Act. The Lords' amendments to the Railway and Canal Traffic Bill were considered, and the bill was ordered to be sent back to the Lords with a further amendment. The Exchequer Bonds (£1,600,000) Bill and the Regulation of Railways (Returns) Bill were read the second time.

At the afternoon sitting on Tuesday Mr. Gladstone announced that the Government had abandoned their intention of recommitting the Supreme Court of Judicature Bill with the view of transferring the Scotch and Irish appeals from the House of Lords to the new Court of Appeal. The Premier explained that this course had been adopted because the Government were sensible of the risks which the bill might have to encounter in the House of Lords, in consequence of the serious and probably lengthened debates to which it would there be subjected. The Rating (Valuation and Liability) Bill gave rise to a succession of sharp debates. Mr. Gladstone objected to the recommitment of the whole bill, which would be fatal to it for this Session, and again asserted that this measure was the basis of the whole Government scheme for the reform of local taxation. Eventually it was moved and agreed to that the bill should only be recommitted as regarded clauses 1, 3, and 19, and any new clauses relating to the subject matter of the three clauses specified; and the House then went into Committee on the bill, passed clause 1 with verbal amendments, and rejected clause 19. The new clause proposed by Mr. Stansfeld, defining the rateable value of land used as plantation, was under discussion when progress was reported. The Military Manœuvres Bill was read the third time and passed. The Exchequer Bonds (£1,600,000) Bill and the Treasury Chest Fund Bill were passed through Committee. The Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill, as amended, was considered and agreed to. At the evening sitting the subjects of the ecclesiastical policy of the Government in regard to the Established Church in the West Indies and the revenues of the Established Church in England were discussed; and attention was called, but without effect, to the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1871.

The bill for giving certain powers to Scotch tenant-farmers to erect labourers' cottages at the expense of the landlords was again discussed on Wednesday, and finally disposed of by an adverse vote of 78 to 74. Mr. T. Collins's bill for applying the cumulative vote to the election of aldermen by town councillors was debated at some length, and talked out. The Public Health Act (1872) Amendment Bill was read the second time; and the Exchequer Bonds Bill, the Treasury Chest Fund Bill, the Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill, and the Revising Barristers Bill were read the third time and passed.

Mr. Ayton, on Thursday, in reply to questions, intimated

that the sculptures and models bequeathed by the late Mr. Gilson would be exhibited at the Royal Academy in May next; and said he thought it extremely probable that the houses standing between Parliament-street and the new Colonial and Home Offices would be taken down before the meeting of Parliament. Lord Otho Fitzgerald brought up the reply of the Queen to the address praying her Majesty to take steps with a view to the establishment of a system of international arbitration. In reply, her Majesty said:—"I am sensible of the philanthropic motives which have dictated your address. I have at all times sought to extend, both by advice and example, as occasion might offer, the practice of closing controversies between nations by submission to the impartial judgment of friends, and to encourage the adoption of international rules intended for the equal benefit of all. I shall continue to pursue a similar course, with due regard to time and opportunity, when it shall seem likely to be attended with advantage." The reading of this reply was received with cheers and laughter. Mr. W. E. Forster, in moving the second reading of the Elementary Education Act (1870) Amendment Bill, explained the course which Ministers contemplated in the face of the objections raised in various quarters against some of its provisions, and particularly the third clause. The object of that clause was twofold—first, to secure the education of all the children of outdoor paupers; secondly, to transfer to the poor-law guardians, under certain conditions, the onus of paying wholly or in part the school fees for the children of indigent parents. It was also proposed to extend the provisions of Denison's Act in making education compulsory in the case of pauper children. He admitted that this must cause a temporary and considerable increase in the rates; but he trusted that the struggle between conscience and pocket would not be allowed to keep children untaught. He also added that for every sixpence found by the local rates another sixpence would come from Imperial sources. And this, he held, was as good a bargain, so far as local rates were concerned, as could be expected. Mr. M'Cullagh Torrens moved the previous question, contending that the measure would overtax the poorest districts, would offer an inducement to pauperism and convert the maximum of rating into the minimum of charge. Sir Massey Lopes seconded the amendment. Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Melly, Mr. C. Reed, Sir C. Adderley, and others supported the bill, which was as warmly opposed by Mr. Newdegate and several other hon. members.

LAW AND POLICE.

In consequence of the detention in town of Mr. Justice Lush, one of the presiding Judges at the Tickborne trial, Mr. Fitzjames Stephen, Q.C., acts as Judge upon the Western Circuit, with Chief Baron Kelly.

At the conclusion of the arguments in the appeal of "Gray v. Lewis," which lasted the whole of Thursday, the Lords Justices delivered judgment. Lord Justice James said that the defendants, Mr. Harvey Lewis, M.P., and Mr. F. B. Henshaw (who alone appealed), were entitled to be relieved from the consequences of the Vice-Chancellor's decree. If ever a bill was demurrable, this bill was so, having been instituted by the wrong plaintiff in the wrong form. The bill must, therefore, be dismissed. Lord Justice Mellish concurred.

At Durham Assizes, on Monday, the action brought against Mr. George Leeman, M.P. for York, by Mr. R. Ward Jackson, M.P. for Hartlepool, was concluded, a verdict being given for the plaintiff, with 40s. damages.

In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, Mr. William Robert Bald, corn broker, Glasgow, was awarded £3500 as compensation for injuries received by him in October last at the Kirtlebridge accident on the Caledonian Railway.

Dr. Berrington, promoter of the "high-class college," has had a third charge of swindling entered against him at the Hampstead Police Court, and has been committed for trial.

John Wilson, a tinman, of Leather-lane, but formerly of Colney-hatch, has been charged at Hampstead with attempting to upset a train on the Midland Railway by placing iron bars on the line. When he had finished the first part of his practical joke he stationed himself on a bridge and threw stones at the train. He was committed to the Central Criminal Court.

Joseph Head, of Bramley, and Samuel Harding, of Bruton, Somersetshire, have been fined at Guildhall for sending diseased meat to the Metropolitan Meat Market.

William Brown, a City merchant, charged at the Mansion House with forging and uttering bills of exchange, has been committed for trial.

Edward Sainger, Jane Savage, and Edmund Hacker were charged at Lambeth, on Saturday last, with being concerned in obtaining money by representing a painted sparrow to be a canary. The prisoners were in Albany-road, Camberwell, and two women, one of whom was the prisoner Savage, told Mrs. Felton that their "Missus" had given them a canary. Mrs. Felton was induced to give half a crown for the bird, which was in a bag. On getting home she found it was a painted sparrow. It was shown that many persons had been duped by the prisoners, and they were committed for trial.

Benjamin Hudson, the young collier who murdered his wife last April, was tried at the Derby Assizes, on Tuesday, and found guilty, but recommended to mercy on the ground of provocation. The Judge passed sentence of death.

On Monday, before Mr. Justice Grove, Charles Doran, a fireman, was indicted, at Glamorgan, for the wilful murder of James Maguor, at Dowlais, in April last. After the evidence connecting the prisoner with the crime had been given, it was contended that he received sufficient provocation to reduce the crime from murder to manslaughter, and he was therefore sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude.

At the Durham Assizes, on Saturday, sentence of death was passed upon a young man named Joseph Turnbull, coal-miner, for the murder of Martin Hagan, at Willington, on April 21 last. The crime arose out of a quarrel between English and Irish labourers.

At the Cowan Assizes, on Thursday, Lawrence Smith, a blind man, was tried for the murder of Patrick Lynch, a respectable farmer. He was found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged.

Thunderstorms have occurred in many parts of the kingdom.

Dundee has suffered under the infliction of a cab strike.

Her Majesty has commanded that the 79th Regiment shall be styled the "79th (Queen's Own) Cameron Highlanders."

Mr. Kettle, as arbitrator between the Cleveland ironstone miners and their employers, has decided that the position of the men and the prospects of the iron trade do not warrant any addition to the large increase of wages which they obtained.

MUSIC.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

This week commenced with a performance of "Don Giovanni," for the last time this season; on Tuesday "Les Diamans de la Couronne" was given, also for the last time. On Wednesday "Der Freischütz" was performed, and for Friday "L'Etoile du Nord" was announced—each for the first time this season—the former being promised a second time to-night (Saturday). The cast of "Der Freischütz" was similar to that of last year, with the exception of the substitution of Mlle. d'Angeri for Madame Lucca as Agata. The lady first named, who made her debut here on the opening night of the season, appeared to greater advantage in her recent performance than heretofore, particularly in the delivery of the great scena ("Softly sighs"), which was given with much feeling and dramatic power, and gained for her general applause. As already implied, other principal characters were as before—Annetta, Madame Sinico; Caspar, M. Faure; Max, Signor Bettini, &c. The overture and Caspar's drinking-song were encored. Signor Beviniani conducted on this occasion.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA.

There is little to record of this establishment beyond the fact of its close to-night (Saturday), somewhat sooner than was anticipated; another and greater surprise having been caused by the announcement that Balfe's unheard opera, "Il Talismano," will remain so until next season, its production having been postponed, as explained in recent advertisements.

Since our last notice "Le Nozze di Figaro" has been given (on Saturday), for the first time this season, with a cast similar in most respects to that of last year, including the important features of Mlle. Titiens as the Countess and Signor Agnesi as Figaro, the principal change having been the appearance of Mlle. Ostava Torriani as Susanna, in which character that lady appeared to more advantage than heretofore. Her fresh quality of voice and grace of style were advantageously displayed in various instances, particularly in the duet with the Count, "Crudel per ché," in that with the Countess, "Sull' aria" (both encored); and, above all, in Susanna's important aria, "Deh vieni," in which latter the singer produced a highly favourable impression. In every respect Mlle. Torriani's performance was characterised by much refinement. The Countess of Mlle. Titiens has, for several seasons, been one of her favourite parts; and again her fine voice and earnest style were displayed in music worthy of them, her delivery of the cavatina "Porgi amor" and the aria "Dove sono" having been especially successful. Madame Trebelli-Bettini had not appeared in the character of Cherubino for three years previously. The music of the part suffers somewhat from the transposition of key necessary to bring it within the compass of this lady's voice. Notwithstanding this disadvantage, however, her fine singing gave great effect to the prominent passages for the Page—the aria "Non so più," and the canzone "Voi che sapete," which latter had to be repeated. Signor Rota, as the Count, sang well throughout. Signor Agnesi's Figaro was the same fine performance as heretofore, and the Bartolo of Signor Borella also presented all its former characteristics. Other parts were efficiently filled by Mlle. Bauermeister and Signori Rinaldini, Casaboni, and Sinigaglia.

The performances for this, the closing, week announced were—"Semiramide" on Monday, "Faust" on Tuesday (for the benefit of Madame Nilsson), "Les Huguenots" on Thursday, "Marta" on Friday (for the benefit of Signor Campanini), and "Le Nozze di Figaro" on Saturday (for the benefit of Mlle. Titiens).

The season of Her Majesty's Opera at Drury Lane Theatre commenced on April 15, and the proceedings throughout have offered nothing of positive novelty, with the exception of an unusually large number of first appearances. The names of several of the established favourites who reappeared this year are incidentally mentioned above. Others were Mlles. Ilma de Murska and Marie Roze, and Signori Mongini, Fancelli, and Mendioroz. The new comers were Mlle. Alwina Valleria, Torriani, and Macvitz, and Signori Aramburo, Cantini, Collini, Del Puente, Castelmarty, Campobello, and Pro.

As to works, there is scarcely anything to be said, as no novelty whatever has been produced, unless a rehearsing of "Mignon," with Madame Nilsson as the heroine, and the first performance under this management of "La Favorita," can be so considered—the unfulfilled promises being numerous, as is, more or less, the case with most operatic seasons, probably from causes which cannot be foreseen when the manager issues his prospectus.

Sir Michael Costa has continued his valuable aid as conductor and musical director; and here it may be proper to mention that an authoritative contradiction has been given to the rumour which was circulated as to Sir Michael's intended speedy retirement from professional duties.

NATIONAL MUSIC MEETINGS.

The second series of these annual competitions at the Crystal Palace closed on Saturday. The fourth and last of the trial performances took place on Thursday week, when the occasion possessed a special interest from the opposition offered to the South Wales Choral Union by the Tonic Sol-Fa Association.

Last year, it will be remembered, the first-named body gained the challenge prize cup (value £1000) unopposed, but fully justified by the exceptionally fine singing of the choristers. This year they were again awarded the prize (together with a purse of £100) under the more satisfactory condition of a powerful opposition. Both choirs sang Bach's motet, "I wrestle and pray," the "Hallelujah Chorus," from Beethoven's "Mount of Olives," the chorus "See what love," from Mendelssohn's "St. Paul," and the fine choral movement, "Come with torches," from the same composer's "Walpurgis Night" music. Without any disparagement of the meritorious performances of the defeated body, it cannot be denied that those of the Welsh choristers were in every way far superior. In richness of tone, power without coarseness, energy, precision, and truth of intonation, the Cambrian singers fully maintained the high impression produced by their last year's performances, and justified the verdict pronounced in their favour by the judges—Sir J. Benedict, Sir J. Goss, and Mr. Barnby—who awarded the second prize (a harmonium presented by Messrs. Alexandre, of Paris) to the Tonic Sol-Fa Association.

The other contest of the day was between three choirs of male singers—the Bristol Choral Union, the Liverpool Representative Choir, and Mr. Proudman's men's-voice choir. The judges in this case were Sir J. Benedict, Mr. Leslie, and Mr. Barnby; and they bestowed the first prize (a purse of £50) on the Liverpool choir, the second (a 10-guinea library of music, presented by Messrs. Chappell and Co.) on that of Bristol, and a certificate of merit to the other choir.

The proceedings closed on Saturday with the distribution of prizes, followed by a concert and other entertainments.

A new series of twelve performances of operas in English commenced at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday, when a version of Auber's "Le Domino Noir" was very effectively given, the

principal characters represented by Madame Florence Lancia (Angela) and Mr. J. Maas (Horace), other parts having been filled by Misses A. Goodall, A. Thirlwall, Messrs. H. Corri, E. Cotte, &c. The co-operation of the company's fine orchestra, conducted by Mr. Manns, is an important aid to the general effect. "Le Domino Noir" was repeated on Thursday; other first performances announced as forthcoming being those of "Satanella" and "Norma." The fourth concert of the Welsh Choral Union took place on Monday. The sixth and last but one of the summer concerts is announced for to-day (Saturday).

At the matinée of Mr. Frits Hartvigson, on Monday, his own fine pianoforte-playing was the principal feature. This was displayed in several solo pieces by Bach, Von Bülow, Chopin, and Liszt; and (in association with Herr Daubert) in Beethoven's sonata, with violoncello, in A; and, with the co-operation of Mr. Walter Bache, in Raff's chaconne for two pianos.

A military concert will take place at the Royal Albert Hall this (Saturday) afternoon at three o'clock, at which Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Mlle. Alwina Valleria, Mlle. Marie Roze, and Signor Campanini will assist.

The annual public concert of the students of the Royal Academy of Music will be held at the Hanover-square Rooms on Saturday next.

Promenade concerts, under the experienced direction of M. Rivière, are to begin at Covent-Garden Theatre on Aug. 16.

THEATRES.

At the close of the season there is but little to record. It was not to be expected, however, that the visit of the Shah would be permitted to pass over without an attempt at its improvement. In addition to the slight piece at the Globe, called "Doing the Shah," a more important one, from the pen of Mr. Burnand, has been produced at the Opéra Comique. The latter is called "Kissi-Kissi; or, the Pa, the Ma, and the Padisha." This new Persian extravaganza is accompanied with Offenbach's music, and goes remarkably well. It has been splendidly got up as a spectacle, and altogether projected on a costly scale. Mr. Burnand has provided the dialogue with an abundance of puns, and the story, for a piece of this class, may be considered as really clever. The heroine, named Kissi-Kissi, is presented to us as the only daughter of the Grand Vizier Heerza Beeg Phul (Mr. Perrini), whose boyish predilections are a great trouble to her parents. Besides this, the supposed hoyden is in love, Prince Kikki Wikki (Miss Almar Santon) being the object of her attachment, who waits, besides, to be first addressed. The mystery is ultimately explained. The girl has been brought up as a boy; the boy, as a girl. Such is the position of affairs when the Shah returns home from his travels and relates all he has seen in England. The portrait of this illustrious personage is a full-length, and the witty author has provided him with a series of humorous descriptions which are very amusing. Mr. Henry Corri makes up for the character in the most effective manner. He realises the man to the most minute details, not forgetting the spectacles. The Shah of the stage is deprived, however, of many of his gems, which have been pledged to his "uncle," and in their stead wears round his neck the pawnbroker's tickets. We have next to speak of Miss Harriet Coveney, the Grand Vizier's only wife, named Ina Nussa, who suffers remorse for having disguised the sex of the children. The children themselves have by this time penetrated the secret. All that remains is to explain it to the Padisha; and here we think that the clever writer has shown some awkwardness. The revelation should come sooner than it does. Of the acting and the appointments we have only a good account to render. Seldom has an occasional piece been better performed on the first night or proved more successful.

On Saturday last Mr. Buckstone brought to its close the Haymarket season, rendered notable through the production of Mr. W. S. Gilbert's "Wicked World," by taking his annual benefit. The programme was various, two songs by Mr. Sims Reeves being added to the dramatic attractions. Mr. Buckstone's farewell speech, always regarded as one of the events of the theatrical year, was equal to the occasion.

The last of the Italian plays given by Madame Ristori at Drury Lane was represented on Friday week. The performance was diversified by the recitation in French of Joan of Arc's farewell apostrophe to her mother's cottage, and the social relations of life, when placing on her brow the typical helmet, thus showing her devotion to France. Full justice was done to the pathetic and spirit-stirring lines of M. Legouvé. The performance concluded with the famous scene from "Macbeth," which was rendered in the most impressive manner.

The favour with which the series of Opéras Bouffes, produced under the direction of M. Humbert at the St. James's, have been received by the London public is not in the least diminished. Last Saturday night "La Belle Hélène," with which everyone is familiar, was revived, and attracted a crowded and enthusiastic audience.

Madame Judic has appeared at the Princess's, and achieved an increasing popularity. The theme of most of her songs, however, is objectionable.

Mr. H. J. Irving's benefit will take place this evening at the Lyceum, when he will reappear in the part of Mathias in "The Bells," and in that of Charles I., he and Miss Isabel Bateman performing together in the last act.

The tenancy of Mr. and Mrs. German Reed is about to expire at the Gallery of Illustration, which, after the 31st inst., will cease to exist as a place of public entertainment. For many years Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, assisted by a small but talented company, have given "a local habitation and a name" to a class of entertainment distinguished by its refinement. Our readers will be glad to learn that they will not be permanently deprived of a favourite amusement, for Mrs. Reed will resume her entertainments next season. Meantime she will take a short tour in the provinces.

A public park, for the use of the inhabitants of Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge, and neighbourhood, was opened, last Saturday, by the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. In the year 1853 the late Mr. S. Oldham left a bequest of £7000, the interest of which was to be appropriated for the purpose of keeping in repair and defraying the cost of management of a public park to be provided for the people. In June, 1871, the mansion and park, known as the Highfield estate, were sold, for a very low sum, to H. T. Darnton, Esq., who gave up his purchase to a committee. Lord Stamford, on the understanding that the people would subscribe £10,000, made a gift of thirty-five acres, valued at over £12,000, to the park committee, thus making a beautiful place of recreation for the people, occupying over fifty acres of ground. The park, with a splendid mansion for a museum and library, and containing gymnasiums, bowling-green, large lakes, and waterfalls, was opened on Saturday, which was observed as a holiday.

EAST AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

The interest just now felt in this subject, as shown by the public meeting last week in Exeter Hall, is heightened by the recent success of her Majesty's Government in negotiating with the Sultan of Zanzibar a treaty for the suppression of the horrid traffic in human beings, denounced by Dr. Livingstone from the far inland shores of Tanganyika, to which we called attention a twelvemonth ago. We gave last week some illustrations of the different classes and races of people concerned in the East African slave trade, from sketches made by Mr. B. C. Frere, son of the Special Envoy, Sir Bartle Frere, during his diplomatic cruise in H.M.S. Enchantress between Muscat, at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, Zanzibar, with the adjacent African mainland, the Comoro Isles, Madagascar, and the Portuguese settlement of Mozambique. Other gentlemen of the same expedition, Lieutenant A. M. R. Hamilton, R.N., and Captain Fairfax, naval attaché to the mission, have likewise furnished sketches, which will appear in this Journal. Meantime we have engraved for the present Number four views of Mozambique and the neighbouring territory, which were obligingly lent us by Sir William Parker, Bart., of Melford, Suffolk, having been drawn by him from slight sketches made on that coast a few years ago by his brother, the late Captain Hyde Parker, R.N. They represent—1. Part of the town and the fort of St. Sebastian, at Mozambique. 2. Mafamale Island, at the mouth of the river Angoxa, in the Mozambique Channel, about 150 miles south of Mozambique. (This sketch shows a slaver driven on shore by a man-of-war.) 3. The Lurio River, with the distant mountains of Picos Fragos, about one hundred miles north of Mozambique. 4. The Rovooma River, midway between Mozambique and Zanzibar. These little-known rivers are much frequented by the slavers. Sir William Parker writes the following more detailed account of the places shown in his drawings:—

"The town of Mozambique, which nearly covers the low sandy island of the same name, in lat. 15 deg. 3 min. S., long. 40 deg. 58 min. E., is the capital of the Portuguese possessions on the east coast of Africa, and the residence of the Governor. The island is a mile and three quarters long, and barely half a mile wide at the broadest part. The fine harbour to which this place owes all its importance is one of the few safe anchorages on the coast during all weathers. The building of the town was commenced shortly after Vasco de Gama touched here on his first voyage to India.

"The large fort of St. Sebastian, shown in the drawing, at the north-east end of the island, is a fine piece of old masonry, and was built at the commencement of the eighteenth century. Portuguese tradition says that it was completed within three years, but that its construction cost the lives of 60,000 negroes. It can mount eighty guns, and commands the bay and harbour; and, though now in a neglected state, like everything Portuguese on this coast, it is still a strong work. The town is irregular, with narrow streets; but the houses are generally well built, with tanks on the roofs for rain water, as all the well water on the island is brackish. It contains about 6000 inhabitants, of whom not 400 are free, and of these latter only some thirty are Portuguese; all the remaining free population being made up of half-castes, with Arabs and Banyans, who are the principal traders; and, though there is no actual slave trade here, the merchants are more or less interested in it. Some of the Portuguese have villas and gardens at Cabeceira Grande, on the mainland of the bay, while many of the Arabs and Mohammedans reside at Cabeceira Pequena. The climate is deadly, and the depravity of morals notorious; and Mozambique is now sinking rapidly into decay.

"About a hundred miles north of Mozambique are the bays of Almeida and Lurio, into the latter of which flows the river of the same name, a fine stream, which is in some places within the entrance two miles broad. Like most of the east-coast rivers, the Lurio has a bar across its mouth, with very little water on it in a dry season; but in the rains it pours down a great body of water of a reddish tint, which discolours the sea to a considerable distance. On the north bank, about three miles up, is a considerable village, with some large huts, which the natives say are stores for grain, beans, and other produce, sent to Mozambique for the food of the slaves there; but it is probable that they also serve the purpose, for which they are well adapted, of slave barracoons when so required. From Lurio Bay are visible the curious distant peaks, shown in the Engraving, which are called by the Portuguese Picos Fragos, and which are an excellent landmark for this part of the coast.

"To the north of Cape Delgado, in a bay about midway between Mozambique and Zanzibar, and within the territory claimed by the Imaum of Muscat, is the river Rovooma (spelt on some maps Lovouma). Near its entrance there is good anchorage; and though the left side of the river is full of sandbanks, there is a channel three fathoms deep, close to the right bank. The stream is always very strong, and in the rainy season an immense body of water is discharged. The water at the surface of the bay, as far out as the anchorage, is frequently quite drinkable. The banks of the river are wooded with some very fine trees. A few miles up, the country becomes hilly. The anchorage is resorted to by slavers while waiting for their cargoes, being very convenient from its facilities for wooding and watering. Some coasting slave trade to Zanzibar is also carried on from this place and neighbourhood.

"Southward of Mozambique is the Angoxa river, which has a dangerous bar at its entrance, with a depth of from 2½ fathoms to 3 fathoms at high water, on which the sea breaks heavily with southerly winds. It is, however, navigated by dhows, though not safe, except with a leading wind. The river banks are low and sandy, with some casuarina trees. The inhabitants are a mixture of Arabs, blacks, and outcasts of all sorts. Their territory is nominally within the Portuguese dominions; but they are, in fact, perfectly independent, and under the rule of a Sultan. The entrance to the river is, to a certain extent, sheltered by an extensive coral reef surrounding Mafamale Island, on which in the Engraving a slaver is represented driven on shore by a man-of-war cruiser. The island above water has diminished in size since many of its trees were cut down for firewood."

We may add that the newly-published book of Captain George Sullivan, R.N., entitled "Dhow-Chasing in Zanzibar Waters," to which we referred last week (published by Sampson Low, Marston, and Searle), contains much authentic information upon the facts of Portuguese connivance at the slave trade in the Mozambique Channel.

The appointment of the Duke of Roxburghe to be Lord Lieutenant of Berwickshire, vice Baron Marjoribanks, deceased, is officially announced in the *Gazette*.

An Art-Treasures and Industrial Exhibition was opened in the Mechanics' Institution, Bradford, on Wednesday, by Mr. Thompson, the Mayor; the object being to raise funds for liquidating the debt of £5000 upon the new building of the institute. The exhibition comprises a fine collection of paintings, mostly by modern British artists, machinery in motion, objects from the South Kensington and Indian Museums, and armour from the Tower.

T H E E A S T A F R I C A N S L A V E T R A D E .



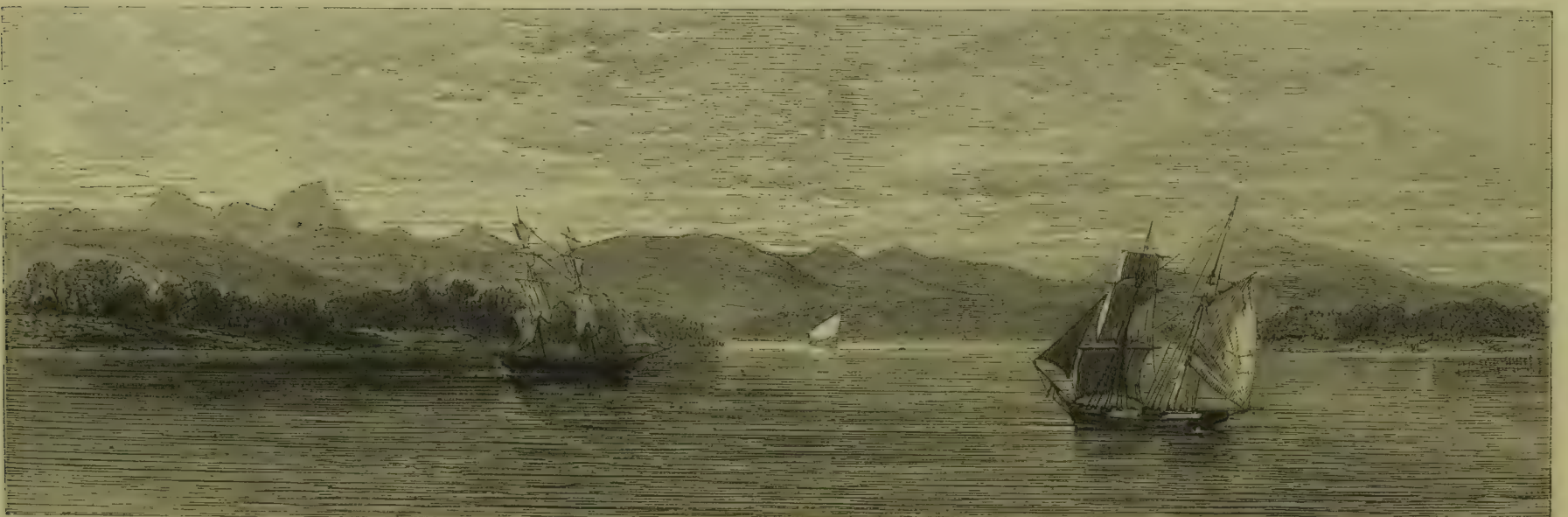
MOZAMBIQUE, WITH FORT ST. SEBASTIAN.



MAFAMALE ISLE, MOUTH OF THE ANGOXA.



R. VOOMA RIVER



LURIO RIVER, WITH THE PICOS FRAGOS.

MDLLE. ILMA DE MURSKA.

This admirable artist—a native of Hungary—first appeared in London at Her Majesty's Theatre, where she made her début in 1865, as Lucia, a character which is still one of the most attractive among her many and varied representations. There are, however, other parts requiring an exceptionally high range of voice, which is possessed by very few singers to such extent as by Mdle. de Murska. She is one of the best representatives of such parts. The music for the Queen of Night, in Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte" ("Il Flauto Magico"), is an instance of this, having been written specially for a singer of the time who possessed a rare command of the highest soprano notes—the aria "Gl'angeli" extending to F in alt. Not only in this opera, but also in various others, has the exceptional value of Mdle. de Murska been proved, here as well as abroad, and with a recent development of vocal and dramatic power that we have already commented on. The brilliancy of her voice and her facile execution of the most difficult bravura passages have been admirably displayed, not only in the characters already specified, but also as Dinorah, the Princess in "Roberto," the Queen in "Les Huguenots" and other parts.

Special mention is due to the performance by this accomplished artist of the character of Senta in "L'Olandese Dannato," (the Italian version of Wagner's "Der Fliegende Holländer"), which was brought out at the Drury Lane Opera during the temporary management of Mr. George Wood, in 1870. Those who had before only heard Mdle. de Murska as a bravura singer in operas of a lighter class here found occasion to recognise the dramatic power of the singer in a remarkable work that should have received frequent repetition, whereas it was heard but twice. It is to be hoped that Mdle. de Murska's return next season may be coupled with a revival of Wagner's opera, and a renewal of her admirable performance therein.

We have Engraved the Portrait of this lady from a photograph by Messrs. Elliott and Fry, of Baker-street, Portman-square.



MDLLE. ILMA DE MURSKA.

SIGNOR AGNESI.

This eminent vocalist is a native of Belgium, and received his musical education at the Brussels Conservatoire, when under the direction of the late M. Fetis. Here Signor Agnesi acquired a thorough knowledge of his art, both practical and theoretical; having previously been, when a boy, a performer on the clarinet and bassoon. Soon after his entry at the Brussels institution he won the prizes for solfeggi, organ-playing, harmony, and composition. He shortly afterwards produced a grand opera in two acts entitled "Hermold le Norman," which met with considerable success at the Brussels Grand Opera. Subsequently the young composer put music to a comic opera by Scribe, the production of which was nearly prevented by the sudden illness of the baritone engaged. In this emergency Agnesi under-

took the part, and was so successful in his double capacity of singer and composer that he was, it is said, called twenty-four times before the curtain. This event determined the career of Agnesi as an operatic singer. Rossini happened to be present on the occasion referred to, and by the influence of that great composer a Parisian career was opened to the artist. The counsels of the Italian maestro were of high benefit to Agnesi, who is now one of the best of the few thoroughly Rossinian singers of the day. Special proof of this has been

as a musical and a dramatic artist. In Italian opera, and in adaptations of that of Germany, he is equally admirable—for example, as Don Giovanni and Figaro. Perhaps the highest proof yet given by M. Faure of his histrionic power has been afforded by his fine performance as Hamlet in M. Thomas's opera. This and the Ophelia of Madame (then Mdle.) Nilsson chiefly gained acceptance of the work on its production in Paris in 1868. The portrait of M. Faure is from a photograph by Messrs. Elliott and Fry, of Baker-street, Portman-square.

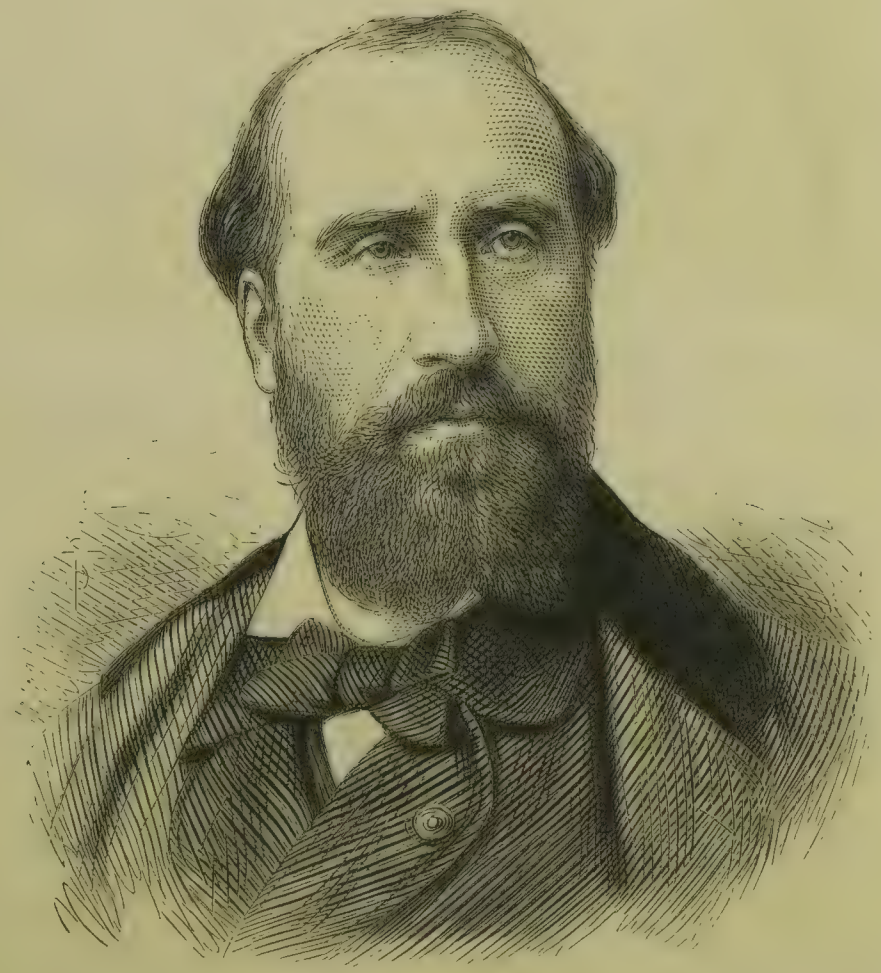
afforded during the present season, as heretofore, by Signor Agnesi's fine performance as Assur, in "Semiramide," as given at the Drury-Lane Opera, with which establishment Signor Agnesi has been connected several years past. Not only by his stage performances, but as an oratorio and concert singer, has Signor Agnesi attained a high position in London. Besides his productions already referred to, he has, we believe, composed church music—motets, choruses, and orchestral symphonies. His portrait is from a photograph by Messrs. W. and D. Downey, of Newcastle and London.

M. FAURE.

Jean-Baptiste Faure was born at Moulins in January, 1830. He was educated at the Conservatoire from 1843 to 1852, and made his début at the Opéra Comique in the last-mentioned year. In 1857 he was appointed Professor of Singing at the Conservatoire. Thus it appears that, French by birth and Parisian by education, M. Faure early attained eminence in his own country. The thorough musical training given in the Paris Conservatoire has been exemplified by many great dramatic singers, but never more than in this instance. A vocalist trained for the stage in Paris is taught to act as well as to sing, and the result generally is that in either aspect the finished student may challenge severe criticism. M. Faure is a notable instance of this. The character in which he made the earliest impression in this country was Mephistopheles, in the production of Gounod's Faust at the Royal Italian Opera ten seasons ago. Merely as a piece of acting this was, and is, one of the most highly studied and perfectly executed representations ever seen, either on the opera stage or in performances of what is called the "regular drama." The minute care bestowed on every detail in action and gesture (modelled on the remarkable series of drawings illustrative of "Faust" made specially for the King of Bavaria) and the subtle by-play, sufficiently fiendish and malignant without ever approaching exaggeration, combine to make up a dramatic performance of sustained excellence. Added to this is a baritone voice of pure quality, used with all the skill and style of cultivated art and systematic study. Here we have a combination of merits such as has rarely been realised by a stage singer. Another fine performance of the same kind is one that was repeated this week, for the first time this season—that of Caspar in "Der Freischütz." Among the many high merits of M. Faure is undoubtedly that of versatility, both



SIGNOR AGNESI.



M. FAURE.

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That were .. 2s. 6d., 2s. 9d., 2s. 11d., 3s. 3d., 3s. 9d.
Are now .. 1s. 11d., 2s. 2d., 2s. 4d., 2s. 6d., 2s. 11d.
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That were 2s. 11d., 3s. 3d., 4s. 3d., 5s. 6d., 6s. 9d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d.
Are now 2s. 6d., 2s. 9d., 3s. 3d., 4s. 3d., 5s. 6d., 6s. 9d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d.
BLACK GROS DE SUEZ AND ARMAZINS, for Mourning.
That were .. 2s. 11d., 3s. 3d., 4s. 3d., 5s. 6d., 6s. 9d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d.
Are now .. 1s. 11d., 2s. 2d., 2s. 4d., 2s. 6d., 2s. 11d., 3s. 3d., 4s. 3d., 5s. 6d., 6s. 9d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d.
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That were .. 6s. 6d., 6s. 11d., 7s. 11d., 8s. 6d., 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 13s. 6d., 14s. 6d., 15s. 6d., 16s. 6d., 17s. 6d., 18s. 6d., 19s. 6d., 20s. 6d., 21s. 6d., 22s. 6d., 23s. 6d., 24s. 6d., 25s. 6d., 26s. 6d., 27s. 6d., 28s. 6d., 29s. 6d., 30s. 6d., 31s. 6d., 32s. 6d., 33s. 6d., 34s. 6d., 35s. 6d., 36s. 6d., 37s. 6d., 38s. 6d., 39s. 6d., 40s. 6d., 41s. 6d., 42s. 6d., 43s. 6d., 44s. 6d., 45s. 6d., 46s. 6d., 47s. 6d., 48s. 6d., 49s. 6d., 50s. 6d., 51s. 6d., 52s. 6d., 53s. 6d., 54s. 6d., 55s. 6d., 56s. 6d., 57s. 6d., 58s. 6d., 59s. 6d., 60s. 6d., 61s. 6d., 62s. 6d., 63s. 6d., 64s. 6d., 65s. 6d., 66s. 6d., 67s. 6d., 68s. 6d., 69s. 6d., 70s. 6d., 71s. 6d., 72s. 6d., 73s. 6d., 74s. 6d., 75s. 6d., 76s. 6d., 77s. 6d., 78s. 6d., 79s. 6d., 80s. 6d., 81s. 6d., 82s. 6d., 83s. 6d., 84s. 6d., 85s. 6d., 86s. 6d., 87s. 6d., 88s. 6d., 89s. 6d., 90s. 6d., 91s. 6d., 92s. 6d., 93s. 6d., 94s. 6d., 95s. 6d., 96s. 6d., 97s. 6d., 98s. 6d., 99s. 6d., 100s. 6d., 101s. 6d., 102s. 6d., 103s. 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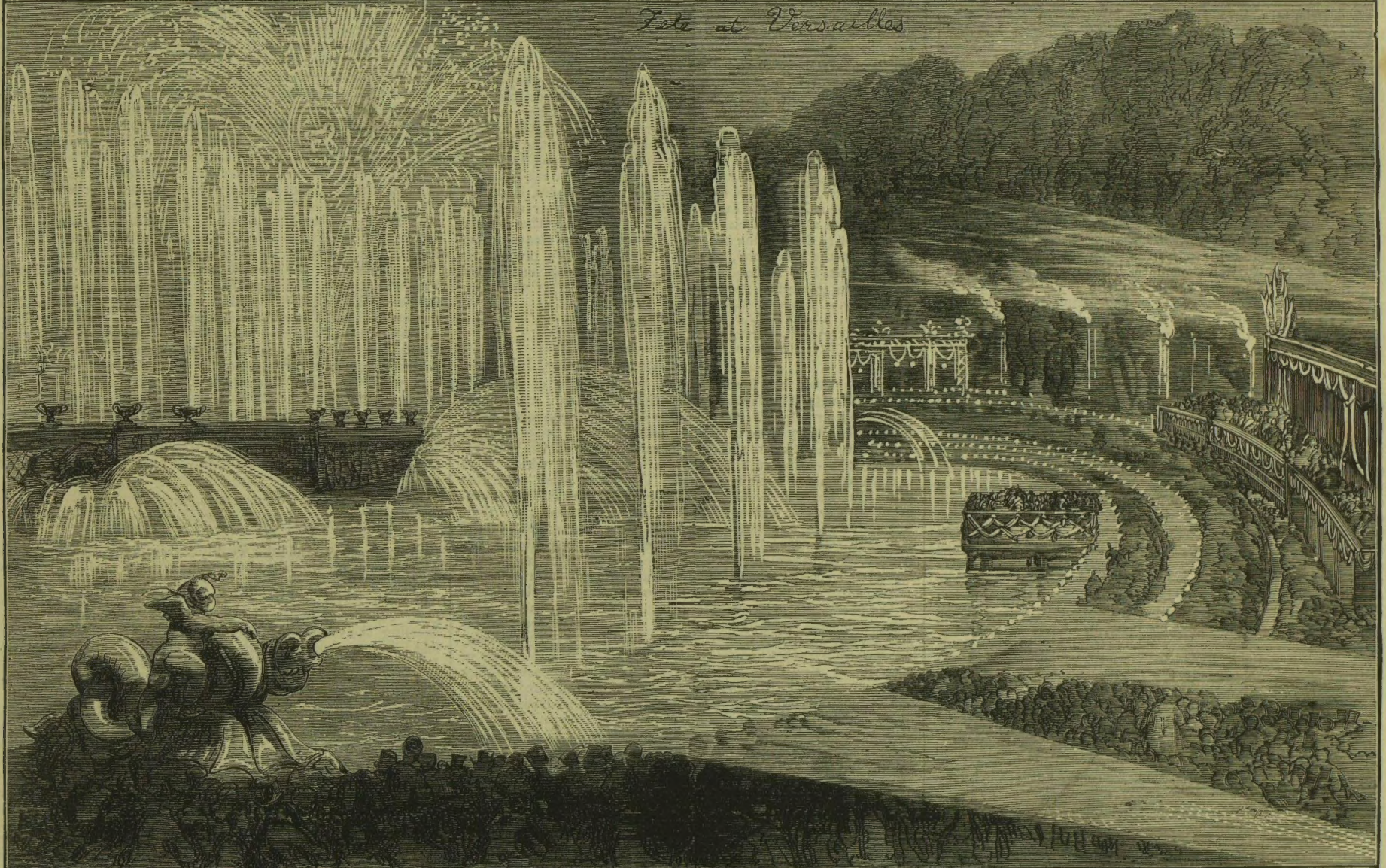
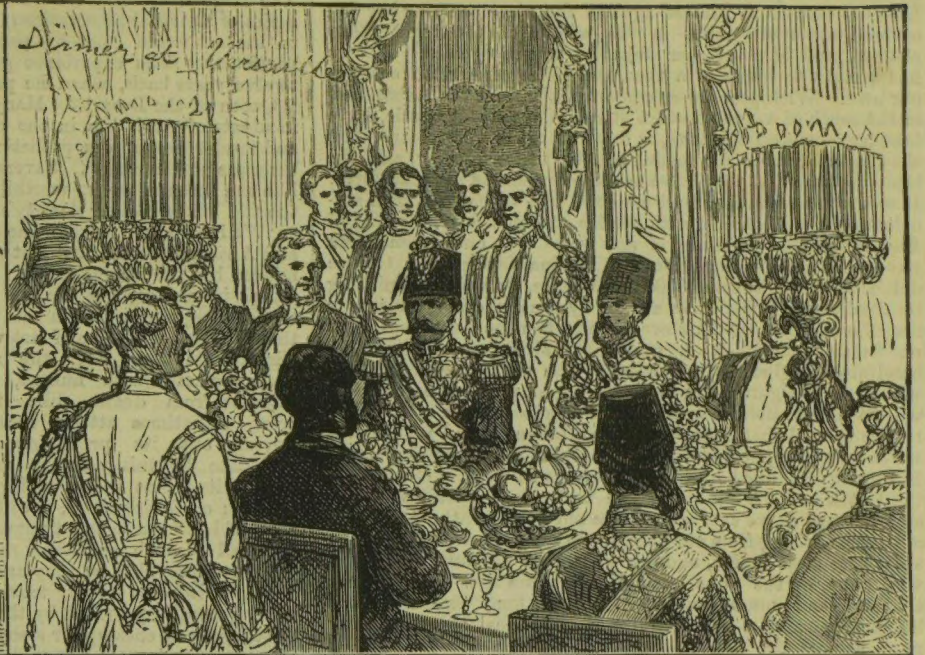
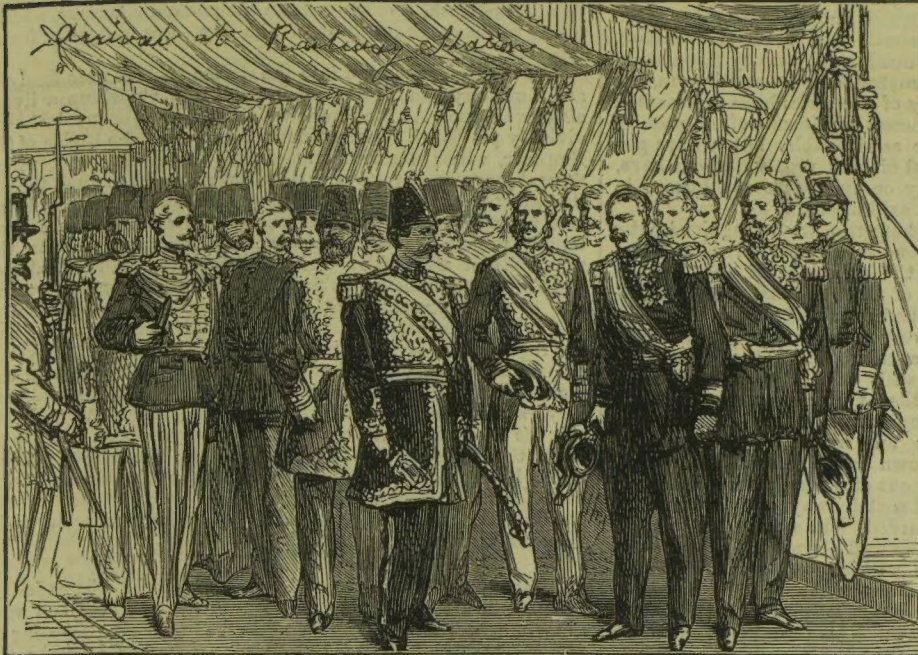
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THE SWOOPING TERROR OF THE DESERT.

BY CARL HAAG.

IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.



BY THE WAY.

"There is only one flag, now, from the Gambia to Lagos," were, if we remember aright, the words of a Minister about a year and a half back, when he announced the cession to us of certain Dutch possessions on the north-west coast of Africa. Liberia hastened to protest against the statement, as her flag covered some 600 miles in the middle of the region thus claimed, and of course her objection was recognised. But we had a right to speak of a thousand miles of African coast as our own. With possessions come troubles, and the Ashantees, in the south of whose district stands Cape Coast Castle, have become our enemies; why, is not yet made very clear. But they leave no room for mistake as to their hostility, and the latest news is that they have made war upon us in great force. It seems to be imputed that we have not hitherto shown sufficient energy in dealing with the foe, and this is usually said of England at the beginning of any war. But our commanders have made amends, have burned Elmina, formerly St. George del Mina, a city of some 8000 inhabitants, by way of punishing its disaffection (which was shown by the explosion, under our fire, of numerous powder stores); and when the Ashantees came on to an attack—it is said 3000 strong—a comparative handful of Englishmen, armed with the snider, repulsed them with great slaughter. It is to be hoped the brave defenders will be able to hold their own until reinforcements arrive. We rejoice to read that heavy rains had fallen, as the failure of a water supply appeared to be the chief dread of our men. Elmina was founded by the Portuguese in 1481, but taken by the Dutch in 1637. It should be understood that this war is as just a one as we ever waged, the old hatred of the Ashantees against us arising from our hostility to the slave trade, in which they were most active, and we had great difficulty in dealing with them, on the same quarrel, fifty years ago. We suppose that England must now read them a final lesson in the humanities, and it may require a good deal of explanatory gunpowder.

The Oriental nature, if sluggish, is fierce in action when roused. The way in which the Sovereign of Persia has been received here has evidently wrought upon one of his subjects and inspired him with the conviction that the sooner he made war upon Russia the more he should please his master and those who have shown him hospitality. Wiser than Don Juan, he did not declare that the entire Russian army should repent his animosity, but he applied himself to an attack on the sinews of war. In other words, a Persian Colonel, whose first name is Mirza, had a vision unlike that of his famous namesake. He imagined that he had only to lay hold of some clever English engraver, and that he could get Russian bank notes fabricated to any amount. But as we are not at present at war with Russia, but, on the contrary, are about to be connected with her in a very delightful manner, the zealous Persian, instead of finding allies, found himself in a trap set for him by the solicitors for the Russian Consulate. The case is not concluded; but there can be no dispute as to the facts, and we may, perhaps, do the accused good, by suggesting that his action was not prompted by ordinary and sordid motives, but by a desire to carry out the idea of an Anglo-Persian alliance against Russia.

During the recess it is forbidden to libel the French Assembly. This has been the outcome of the stormy debates of the week, and of the tremendous disturbances which all parties—especially the Left—have been making at Versailles. The question was made one of liberty; and, heartily as England is abused, as a rule, when her institutions and policy are discussed on the Continent, there is no denying that, by some means or other, the Briton has attained more real liberty than any other person in the world. Therefore, when there was talk of repressing speech and printing, England could be referred to with eulogy, and a French Republican of nearly the most advanced type actually complimented the wise and enlightened aristocracy of this country who encourage the freedom of speech, because it means a safe method of ascertaining public opinion. It is so pleasant to find that, amid our eternal gloom of fogs, through which the sun never penetrates, and with all our hard, narrow, coarse island nature, which is incapable of large ideas or of refinement, we have attained to one result which Frenchmen can applaud, that we gratefully record the civility, and humbly await the next castigation which is to compensate France for having allowed us a merit.

Whether a collier ought or ought not to drink what he supposes—poor fellow!—to be champagne (though he has probably seen, with an unconscious eye, the hairy grapes growing from which his superb draught was to be brewed in the publican's copper), is an open question. We do not see why he has not as much right to be foolishly extravagant as anybody who gives a Greenwich dinner while he owes a year's rent. But Mrs. Collier has vinous ways that might be improved. We read in the report of an inquiry into the conduct of the Vicar of Hindley that Mrs. Tinsley, wife of a collier there, went to be "churched;" and, as the weather was cold, she found her way into the vestry, and in the vestry she found a bottle of wine. This liquor the lady and her friends consumed; and then they filled the bottle with water, and then the grateful mother proceeded into the church to offer her thanks. We fear that all this indicated a spirit out of harmony with the rite with which Mrs. Tinsley was about to be fortified, but we could forgive a poor cold nursing woman everything but the filling up the bottle with water. However, she was not so bad as a miscreant servant of an officer (the case occurred some time back, but its atrocity keeps it fresh in the memory), who sold his master's golden sherry and filled the bottles with marsala. Mrs. Tinsley says that she looked at her proceeding as a joke at the time, "but she does not think it one now." Certainly, it was not a good one; and we hope that, in future, she will keep to champagne, and leave ecclesiastical tent alone.

There is no need to speak here of the brilliancy of the Eton and Harrow match. The sight on Friday was somewhere about the best thing, all points considered, that can be seen in England. But we confess that the "row" that is said to have followed the match on Saturday is a feature with which we hope our young friends will dispense in the future. We do not care to read that in the presence of thousands of the kindest and fairest ladies in the kingdom there commenced "a free fight;" that Etonians flew at the throats—or shall we say the cravats?—of Harrovians, and that Harrovians clutched fiercely at the blue ties of Etonians, that "police helmets were belaboured with cowardly blows," and that "cads"—that is to say, those who were undecorated with either colour—"were hustled and pummelled by both sides." The reporter of the *Telegraph* says that the affair "ended in a vulgar fight and therefore in conduct that was neither seemly nor gentlemanly." Making all allowance for young blood, heated by an exciting contest, we represent to "Etona" and to the "Domus" that the first will flourish as proudly, and that the fortune of the second will be as stable, if both will remember that we are all so proud of our great old schools because they are emphatically training-grounds for gentlemen.

The Extra Supplement.

"THE SWOOPING TERROR OF THE DESERT."

The large drawing we have engraved is one of an extensive series of Oriental illustrations which Mr. Carl Haag has given to the art-world from his personal observation in the East, particularly from experience gained in a journey made about twelve years back, when he penetrated as far as Palmyra, the "Queen of the Desert." Many of the series have represented incidents of Arab life in the desert—incidents often graceful and tender, sometimes pathetic and terrible, but always picturesque and romantic. Several of such representations have, like the present work, worthily occupied places of honour in the Old Water-Colour Society's exhibitions.

We have heard much of the dangers of traversing the Asiatic and African deserts; and just now the subject is rendered prominent by the narratives of the sufferings of the Russian troops in crossing the steppes of Central Asia. But the particular danger indicated in this picture is probably less familiar, though it appears to be of not very unfrequent occurrence. In winging its flight over the arid waste of the desert, an eagle, pressed with hunger, will, without waiting for its rations from death, like the vulture or the carrion crow, sometimes attack living animals, and even man. Spying out its prey from an incredible distance, it will, like lightning, swoop down in ever-lessening circles, seize in its talons and carry far out of sight a good-sized sheep or goat; or, failing these, it will snatch away an infant or small child, if left for a moment unguarded. The appearance towards nightfall of such an enemy may well alarm these lonely travellers, unprovided, as they are, with any protection overhead. A single Bedawee usually travels without a tent, such shelter being generally provided by the Arabs only when they journey in company or encamp for a season. This poor Bedawee family are preparing to pass the night in mid-desert, near a kind of oasis. The sun's last ray is vanishing athwart the group; the moon has risen above the Eastern horizon. The man was about to draw from the saddle-bags the scanty provisions for their frugal meal; the wife had gone to some near pool or fountain for water, and is now returning with her antique-shaped jar balanced on her head after the fashion of her ancestresses of thousands of years ago; she has her children about her: a babe is on her arm, an elder boy toddles at her side. All around is silence and solitude—when suddenly is heard in the still air the clanging wings of the rightly-named "Swooping Terror of the Desert." Instantly, however, the father, ever ready as the champion of his wife and children against all comers, is on his knee by the side of his camel, so as to take steadier aim with his long gun at this aerial robber. Instinctively the mother pauses not to disturb his aim, and her babe clings closer to her neck; but the brave boy, confident in his father's prowess, is already elated in anticipation of seeing their dire enemy fall dead to the ground.

THE VIENNA EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VIENNA, Monday, July 14.

The past week has been marked by a couple of incidents connected with the Vienna Exhibition which can scarcely be passed by unnoticed. On Tuesday last the members of the international jury were invited to Schönbrunn to be presented, in turn, to the Emperor, in the grand gallery of the historic Palace, the entire suite of state apartments of which were thrown open for their reception. The jury, some of whom came in military and official uniforms, and the majority decorated with crosses and orders, after being divided into their respective groups, awaited for some time the arrival of the Emperor. It was about nine o'clock when he entered the gallery, accompanied by several of the Archdukes and attended by a few Court officials, and passed from group to group, addressing a few words of congratulation and welcome to the presidents, vice-presidents, and more prominent members, who were formally introduced. To pass before the six-and-twenty groups, comprising several hundred jurymen, necessarily occupied a considerable time; still, the members of each group were dismissed from the Imperial presence after having been presented, and proceeded to stroll through the suite of elegantly-decorated rooms, more or less fraught with memories of the times of the Empress Maria Theresa. Eventually, the grand balcony became the central point of attraction; there they could listen to the strains of the military bands, grouped in circles in the garden beneath, brilliantly illuminated by means of the electric light, which revealed the rows of white marble statues along the side walks, and the grand central groups comprising the Neptune fountain. The classic temple of La Gloriette, which, with belts of trees, bounded the horizon on the hill beyond, was thrown into deep shadow by the rising moon. Here people lingered till the band ceased playing, refreshments being continually handed round by scores of Imperial lacqueys. At half-past eleven o'clock the last guests were taking their departure.

On Saturday the members of the international jury, with the wives of those who were present in Vienna, and the representatives of the Viennese and foreign press, to the number of about 400, repaired to the Sudbahn railway station, where two special trains were in waiting to convey them along the famous Sömmering line of railway to Mürzzuschlag, where they were to be entertained at dinner by Baron Schwarz-Senborn, the energetic and indefatigable director of the Exhibition. The excursion, which had been planned with the view of showing them the imposing Austrian Alpine railway, one of the finest of its kind in Europe, proved a remarkably pleasant one, and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The Sömmering line, which commences at Gloggnitz and extends as far as Mürzzuschlag, is twenty-five miles in length, and cost upwards of a million and a half sterling to complete. It is carried along the side of abrupt precipices for a long distance, the most grand and picturesque views being offered to the gaze of the spectators. Shortly after passing Gloggnitz the train begins to ascend to the old Schloss of Gloggnitz, perched on the summit of a wooded eminence, standing out boldly in the sunlight, with the limpid Schwarzwau flowing in the verdant valley beneath, past the extensive paper manufactory of Schleglmühl, giving a welcome look of freshness to the picture. On the left rises the Sömmering, with its three peaks. The train crosses the valley of Leichenau by an imposing viaduct, 900 ft. in length, and then commences to ascend the mountain, soon reaching an eminence 540 ft. above the level of the sea. Several tunnels are passed; and eventually the train arrives in front of Klaum, chiefly noteworthy for its ruined castle, built on a rocky pinnacle, the property of Prince Leichtenstein, and once the key of Styria. The train next traverses a long gallery provided with apertures for light and supported by arches and a rocky bridge, followed by numerous tunnels, after which the Sömmering station, the culminating point of the line, is reached. Leaving this station, the line avoids a further ascent of 300 ft. by means of a straight tunnel 1500 yards in length, which penetrates the highest ridge

of the Sömmering, the boundary between Austria and Styria. Beyond the tunnel the train begins to descend, and, after passing through several peaceful green dales, soon reaches Mürzzuschlag, our destination. At every station where the trains halted troops of little children came running up with baskets of wood strawberries, bouquets of Alpine flowers, and jugs full of fresh, cool water from the mountain springs, which, owing to the excessive heat of the day, was generally found especially grateful.

As the trains steamed into the station rockets were fired off, and a military band, stationed in readiness, struck up a lively air of welcome. At the repast which followed the greatest conviviality prevailed. Baron Schwartz proposed the health of the Emperor, which was drunk amid great applause, after which several jurymen of various nations represented proposed that of the director of the Exhibition himself, each fresh toast being received with renewed expressions of enthusiasm. An Italian Count, forgetting former national differences, drank to the prosperity of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the health of the Empress Elizabeth was proposed by an American jurymen; one of the representatives of the Spanish Republic, finally, calling upon the assembly to drink to "Universal peace, and the regeneration of mankind by work." During an interval in the repast a local choral society made its appearance in the banquetting-hall and sang a song in honour of the international jury, which was received with marked applause. At half-past six the entertainments, admirable in every respect, came to an end; the trains set out again for Vienna; the military band which had enlivened the intervals between the courses with some beautiful music, playing, as they steamed out of the station, that popular German air, "Gute Nacht, du mein herziges Kind."

Scattered about the park which surrounds the Vienna Industrial Palace are a number of restaurants, cafés, beer and wine saloons, which are got up in styles and fashions professing to represent the majority of European nationalities. Unlike the establishments of a similar character at the Paris exhibition of 1867, they rarely seek to delude their guests with any so-called national dishes or condiments peculiar to the country to which they claim to be affiliated. To compensate in a measure for this shortcoming the proprietors of these establishments make a point of dressing up their servants in picturesque attire—for instance, as Russian moujiks, Hungarian Magyars, Styrian chamois hunters, or Alsatian demoiselles, though some of them are born Viennese. Singularly enough, the visitors are quite ready, in general, to enter into this deception, as they take especial delight in being served with the conventional "schnitzel," or the habitual glass of beer, by these buxom damsels, in gay-coloured, if rather short, petticoats, neatly-fitting boots, elaborate head-gear, and a liberal display of cheap jewellery, the majority of whom have, in all probability, never once set foot in the countries to which they are supposed to belong.

In the case of the occupants of the various strange-looking houses, cottages, and huts which have been constructed and furnished after precise models, and chiefly by the Imperial Government itself, the system is very different. The attendants in these all really belong to the districts they profess to have come from, and are delighted with any guests who are able to address them in their own rude patois. This is especially the case with the milkmaids attached to the Austrian dairy, and the old woman and her two daughters who occupy the Styrian Alpine hut. Their characteristic features and costume are well delineated by our Artist. The Swiss eating-house, or "conditorei," and the Carinthian Hall, which has been erected as a temple for the German worship of the beery Bacchus, are shown in two other sketches.

THE SHAH IN PARIS.

Our Paris correspondent's weekly letter gives some account of what has been done there to entertain his Majesty Nasr-ood-Deen since the grand review in the Bois de Boulogne on Thursday week. His arrival at Paris, on Sunday week, by railway from Cherbourg, where he had landed the day before, after crossing the Channel from Portsmouth, was described in our last. He was met at the Passy station by Marshal MacMahon, President of the French Republic, with General Ladmirault, and a large official and military staff. A Royal salute was fired by the batteries of Mont Valérien. The Shah and Marshal MacMahon, in an open carriage, with an escort of cavalry, followed by the attendants in other carriages, went on to the Arc de Triomphe, in the Champs Elysée. Here the Shah was met by the Prefect of the department of the Seine, with the Municipal Council of Paris, from whom he received an address of welcome. This scene is represented in our principal illustration of his visit to Paris. The series of minor Engravings, which occupy together one page of our Supplement, relate mostly to the superb entertainment given at Versailles, on Tuesday week, in honour of the Shah. The banquet in the Galerie des Glaces of the Versailles palace; the mingled exhibition of waterworks and fireworks in the Basin of Neptune, with a figure of the Persian Lion, radiant aloft in pyrotechnic brilliancy; and the torchlight carriage-procession along the road back to Paris, are shown in these illustrations.

It is stated by the *Times of India* that the Indian Government has issued a proclamation notifying that the regulations against keeping slaves will be strictly enforced.

Archbishop Manning has issued a Latin citation calling on the Roman Catholic clergy to meet in synod in the hall of St. Edmund's College, at Ware, Herts, on the 22nd inst. These synods, which are intended to promote virtue and piety in the Church, have not sat for the past fourteen years.

The folly of playing with firearms has received another lamentable illustration. At Monk's Farm, Essex, two sisters, named Kate and Mary Dennis, lived with their brother. On Saturday morning they got hold of a loaded gun, and Mary, raising the piece to her shoulder, and presenting it, cried to her sister, "I'll shoot you." This she too surely did, killing Kate.

The Committee of Public Accounts have issued a second report on Post Office irregularities, in which they say that further investigation has confirmed the opinion they expressed in March last, that the expenditure by the department out of the balances, in anticipation of Parliamentary authority, has been both irregular and objectionable. The use made of savings banks deposits, although in no way compromising the security of depositors, is regarded as a serious misappropriation; and the Committee think that the National Debt Office should have called attention to the growing irregularity with which payments connected with that branch of Post Office business have been made for some years. On the whole, the financial operations in connection with the carrying out of the Telegraph Acts are declared to be destructive to all control by Parliament over public expenditure; but the Committee are of opinion that certain proposals which have been made by the Government will secure the requisite checks for the future.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, with five codicils, of James Haycroft, of Highbury-place, Islington, and of St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate-street, merchant, was proved, on the 2nd inst., by William Revell Spicer, Thomas Alexander Johns, William Gage Spicer, and Henry Spicer, jun., the executors—the personal estate being sworn under £160,000. The testator bequeaths to Mr. Johns £500; to his wife £500, a policy of assurance for £1000, his household furniture, and one fifth of the residue of his property; to his son Samuel and his (testator's) two daughters one fifth each of the said residue; and the remaining one fifth to the wife and children of his deceased son William.

The will of Mr. Charles Bowyer, formerly of No. 4, Cleveland-square, St. James's, but late of No. 2, Eaton-square, was proved, on the 27th ult., by George Selater-Booth, M.P., the nephew, and Frederick Mowbray Berkeley Calcott, the surviving executors—the personal estate being sworn under £120,000. The testator gives to his executors £100 each, free of duty; to his servant, Elizabeth Page, £100; and legacies to his sisters, son-in-law, and other members of his family; the residue of his estate, real and personal, he leaves upon trust for his grandson, Charles Pleydell Calley.

The will of Mr. Frederick Ayrton, who died at his residence, No. 4, Arundel-gardens, Notting-hill, on the 20th ult., was proved, on the 4th inst., by the Rev. George Percy Badger, Anne Ayrton, the relict, and Edward Lambert, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £70,000. The testator leaves to his daughter, Mrs. Hicks, £22,000; and among the other legacies one of £1000 to his brother Acton Smee Ayrton; the residue of his property he leaves to his widow. The testator bequeaths all his caligraphic writing, in Turkish, Arabic, and Persian, to the trustees of the British Museum (and he states that in his opinion they are worth £1200), conditionally on their setting apart a room for them, and appointing Assaad Effendi Mazher to prepare a catalogue, which would, he considers, take three or four years, and for which, he thinks, £100 per annum would not be too much to pay him.

The will of Jacob Waley, of Lincoln's Inn, barrister-at-law, and No. 20, Wimpole-street, was proved, on the 9th inst., by Matilda Waley, the relict, and Simon Waley Waley, the brother, the executors, the personalty being sworn under £50,000. The testator bequeaths £100 to the United Synagogue, Great Portland-street; £50 to the Jews' Orphan Asylum; £50 to the Jewish board of guardians; and £100 to be distributed in charity (public or private), as his wife shall think fit. There are also many other legacies to members of his family, friends, and servants; the residue he gives to his wife for life, and at her death it is to go, as she shall appoint, among his issue. The testator, in giving directions to his executors as to dealing with his copyright in "Davidson's Precedents in Conveyancing," requests them to pay the utmost deference to Mr. Davidson's views, as he considers it has been both honourable and advantageous to him to have been associated with that work.

The will of Killingworth Hedges, formerly of Upper George-street, Bryanston-square, but late of Thames Villa, Sunbury, solicitor, was proved on the 25th ult., by Mary Hedges, the relict, Richard Hedges, the son, and the Rev. Richard Utten Todd, the nephew, the acting executors, the personal estate being sworn under £70,000. The testator leaves to his widow his household furniture and a legacy of £300 absolutely, and his residence at Sunbury and £600 per annum for life. Subject to a few legacies, testator leaves the residue of his real and personal property to his children.

The will of Mr. Michael James Whitty, of Windermere-terrace, Princes Park, Liverpool, was proved at the Liverpool district registry, on the 27th ult., by Richard Muspratt, William Hargreaves Manifold, and Miss Anna Whitty, the daughter, the executors, the personalty being sworn under £40,000. The provisions of the will are in favour of testator's children and two of his grand-daughters.

The confirmation, under seal of the Commissary Court of Berwick, of Major the Hon. Robert Baillie Hamilton and Captain the Hon. Henry Baillie Hamilton, R.N., as the executors of the trust disposition and settlement, with a codicil thereto, of Georgina Markham, Countess of Haddington, was sealed at the principal registry, London, on the 4th inst. The personal effects in Scotland and England are under £9000.

The City Press says that the salaries of the City Police have been revised by the police committee, the result being that a general increase has been decided upon, and special gratuities have also been voted to all the officers.

The judging of the cattle at the Royal Agricultural Show at Hull took place on Monday. The entries amounted to 1145; of these 281 represent horses, 308 cattle, 365 sheep, and 191 pigs. The shorthorn bulls above three years old are a capital class. When they were led out to be judged, the judges were an hour and a half coming to a decision. The difficulty lay between the Marquis of Exeter's Telemachus and Lord Linton's Lord Irwin. A veterinary surgeon was called in, and upon his report Telemachus received the first and Lord Irwin the second prize. The cows are probably the best collection ever brought together. For cows above three years old the first prize was taken by Mr. Outhwaite, of Catterick. A pretty little red heifer, the property of Mr. O. Vieveash, of Swindon, received a first prize. The Herefords are not half so numerous as the shorthorns, but they are of the highest quality. The prize for aged bulls was taken by Mr. P. Turner, of Leominster. The Queen exhibited in the yearling-bull class two handsome animals. For a white-faced animal, named the Marquis of Lorne, her Majesty received a third prize; but his companion, Alexander, received no official notice. Both of the bulls were bred at the Flemish Farm, Windsor. There were five splendid Hereford cows, the first prize being taken by Mr. Peren, of South Petherton, Somerset. The Devons numbered 31—again a small number, but again of the best quality. Lord Falmouth's Jonquil received the first prize for aged bulls. The best young bull was adjudged to be that exhibited by the executrix of the late Mr. Davy, of North Molton. A Buckinghamshire exhibitor, Mr. Trevor Lee, took the first prize for cows above three years old. The Scotch cattle were few. Mr. John Graham, of Cumberland, was first, with his Galloway bull. Lord Sondes exhibited the only Norfolk polls in the show, and took two prizes with them. Sheep are a fair average as to quantity, and something more as to quality. Nothing could compete with Mr. Brown's Marham Hall Farm flock of fleecy Cotswolds. Nothing could have been better than the South-downs. Mr. Rigden's sheep took the best prizes.—At the annual meeting, on Tuesday, Mr. Holland was elected president of the society for the ensuing year, succeeding Earl Cathcart. The secretary read the awards for the farm prize. The judges allotted the prize of £100 to Mr. W. B. Wallgate, of West Hill, Aldborough, near Hull; and they highly commended for general good management, especially for excellence in gates and fences, Mr. Charles Lambert, of Sunk Island, Hull; Mr. Peter Dunn, of Sibblethorn, near Hull; and Mr. G. England, of Coniston, in Holderness. The Mayor of Hull entertained at luncheon on Tuesday about 300 gentlemen.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed "To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS," &c., and have the word "Chess" legibly written on the outside of the envelope.

H. K., Hackney.—How is it possible to say, without seeing the position? ALLAMAND, A. LAWRENCE.—It is admissible, as we have said hundreds of times, for a player to have three or more Knights or three or more Queens upon the board at once. Why do not beginners buy a rudimentary treatise on the game and learn these matters, instead of writing to a newspaper?

Eda H., Walworth.—We believe there is a Mechanics' Chess Club on the Surrey side of the Thames, but cannot give you the address.

JUVENILE.—There is no mistake in Problem No. 1531.

M. S. B.—You must find the reply yourself.

ALEXANDRIE, Moscow.—The solution you have sent of Problem No. 1530 is perfectly correct.

J. G. F.—They shall be duly examined.

G. H. D. G.—The last games received we have not had time to consider. They shall not be forgotten. By-the-way, why do you not divide your games into slips of about twenty moves each, instead of sending long sheets of eighty or ninety moves? Moderate lengths of slips can be easily folded and inclosed; such slips as yours are very troublesome.

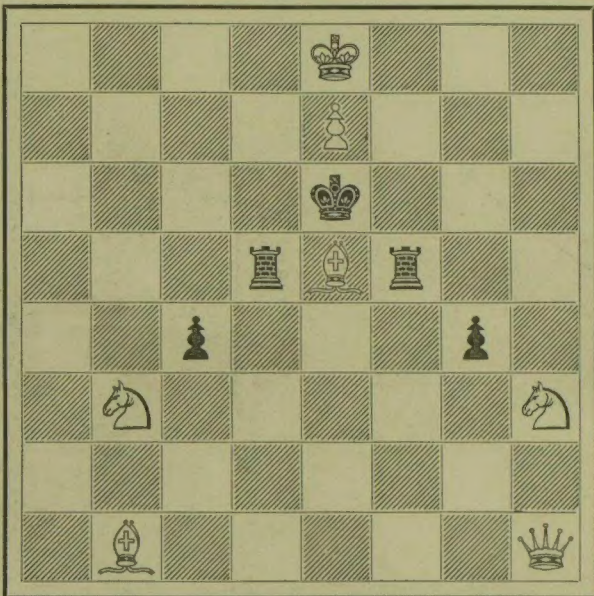
THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1533 HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM R. S.—E. B. M.—D. C. L.—Felix—Tom—H. D. P.—Manfred and Man Friday—A. A.—J. A. Manning—J. Sowden—E. Frau of Lyons—W. M. Curtis—St. Clair—Les Amateurs du Cafe Serin Angers—M. P.—W. B. E.—Sergeants Mess—R. M. G.—J. Janion—W. K. O.—F. A. S.—Brutus—Holm Kirk—Lochrine—G. P. G.—Cheam—Woolwich Infant—S. S.—Ebony—W. G. E.—Fergus—Box and Cox—W. Airey—Riflesman—G. B.—Marine—Volunteer—Jones and Robinson—Wimbledon—Harry Harkaway—P. B. G.—S. P. Q. B.—Bruges—T. W. Morris—Fire-Away—Charley Moore—T. W. of Canterbury—F. R. S.—W. Y. G. D.—Geraldine and Ralph—J. Allaire—Sam and Tommy—Q. Peon—Try-Again—Q. Bishop—Long Tom—Clivis—Babil and Bijou—W. D. E.—Frais—Andrew—R. B. B.—W. P.

PROBLEM NO. 1534.

By Mr. R. H. RAMSAY, of Ontario.

This position was one of the set which won the first prize in the late Canadian Problem Tourney.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, playing first, to give mate in two moves.

CHESS IN HOLLAND.

A smart little Skirmish between Mr. NEPVUE D'AMEYDEE and Mr. A. MODDERMAN.—(King's Gambit evaded.)

WHITE (Mr. d'A.)	BLACK (Mr. M.)	WHITE (Mr. d'A.)	BLACK (Mr. M.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	This is as censurable as his preceding move. He should have played the Queen to K Kt 3rd.	
2. P to K B 4th	Kt to Q B 3rd		
This is neither so good a mode of evading the Gambit as P to Q 4th, nor as B to Q B 4th.			
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	9. P to Q 4th	Q to K Kt 6th
4. B to Q B 4th	Kt to K R 3rd	10. Q to Q Kt 3rd	B takes Kt
5. Castles	B to K Kt 5th	His only chance of escape, and that a very forlorn one, was by casting.	
6. P to K R 3rd	B to K R 4th	11. R takes B	Q to K 5th (ch)
7. P to Q B 3rd	Q to K B 3rd	12. R to K B sq	Q takes K P
Black is evidently a young practitioner.			
8. P takes P	Q to K B 5th	13. B takes P (ch)	K to Q sq
		14. Q takes P	R to Q B sq
		15. B to K Kt 5th (ch)	K to Q 2nd

White gave mate, by force, in seven moves.

THE COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of this association for 1873 will be held at the Academy of Arts, Clifton, Bristol, during the week beginning Monday, Aug. 4, 1873, under the presidency of Lord Lyttelton. Prizes will be offered for competition as follows:—

Class 1.—Open to all provincial amateurs on becoming members of the association, by a subscription of at least £1 is. The first prize will be of the value of £15; the second, £5, if not less than eight entries; the third, £2, if there are ten entries; the fourth, £1, if twelve entries or more.

Should the entries in any class be, in the opinion of the committee, too numerous, it will be divided into sections A and B. The players to be divided by lot; each player to play one game with everyone else in his own section, and afterwards the two winners of the two sections to contend together for the first and second prizes, and the two having the next highest score for the third and fourth. In such case it is hoped that there may be a fifth and sixth prize added.

A challenge prize will be given to the person who first wins, three times, the association's first prize in class 1. The present guaranteed value, £25, to be raised to £40 (funds permitting), the winner (if the prize is of full value) to give £10, the value of the annual class prize, towards the funds for a new challenge cup.

Classes 2 and 3.—Open to all provincial amateurs on becoming members of the association, by a subscription of at least 10s. 6d.

Class 2.—Open to members who are not strong enough for class 1. The first prize £5; the second, if eight entries, £2; the third, if ten entries, £1; the fourth 10s., if twelve entries.

Class 3.—Open to members not strong enough for class 2. First prize, £3; second, third, and fourth prizes, if there are a sufficient number of entries.

There will be a general handicap arranged during the early part of the meeting, of eight, sixteen, or thirty-two players. Two, four, or six prizes, according to number of entries. The first prize, £10, if thirty-two players. On Saturday, the 9th, it is hoped to have consultation games and a blind-fold performance. On Friday there will be a public luncheon.

The committee will not guarantee prizes for more than eight players in the handicap, unless the names have been entered by Monday, Aug. 4, before six o'clock p.m. No player can commence play in any of the classes after Tuesday morning. All provincial amateurs can become members of the association by an annual subscription of 10s. 6d. No prize will be given in any class in which there are not at least four entries. All disputed points to be settled by the committee, and its decision in all cases to be final. Play will commence at seven o'clock on the Monday evening, and be continued each day during the week from ten o'clock till three o'clock, and from seven p.m. till half-past eleven.

Tickets of admission for the week—to visitors 5s. each—may be obtained from the honorary secretaries. A ticket for one day, 2s. 6d. The honorary secretary will be happy to make special arrangements for families.

A vice-president subscribing £2 2s., or anyone subscribing £1 is., may obtain free-admission tickets for the members of his family. After the meeting a printed statement of accounts will be sent to each subscriber of 5s. and upwards.

The local hon. secretary (T. Castle, Esq., Academy of Arts) will be happy to give any information respecting hotels and lodgings.

No entries in any of the three classes will be received after Aug. 2.

CANADIAN CHESS ASSOCIATION.—The second Chess Congress of Canadian players took place a few weeks ago at Toronto, and is said to have been completely successful. The meeting was opened by an address from the president, after which the officials for next year were chosen. Among other business transacted was the final adoption of the constitution provisionally set out at the first congress, in Hamilton, and a few alterations in the code of rules regulating telegraphic matches. Preliminaries were then entered into for organising the tournament. Twenty competitors presenting themselves were paired, as usual, by lot. The contest lasted about three days. At the termination the first prize was adjudged to Mr. Ensor, of Montreal; the second to Mr. Jackson, of Seaford; and the third to Mr. White, of Montreal. The committee then sat to determine the place of meeting for the third congress, and they selected Montreal. We publish above one of the positions in the set which carried off the first prize in the Problem Tourney, and hope shortly to present some of the best games played on this interesting occasion.

THE ASHANTEE WAR.

Views of Cape Coast Castle and the Castle of Elmina, on the west coast of Africa, were given in this Journal six weeks ago, with some account of the formidable invasion of the neighbouring Fantees' country, which is under a British protectorate, by the large army of Ashantee. It will be recollected that the native population of Elmina, while the European commercial factory and fortress there belonged to the Dutch, used to pay tribute to the King of Ashantee; but since the late transfer of Elmina Castle to the British Government this custom has been refused. The Ashantees, 40,000 or 50,000 in number, have therefore come down from the interior of the country and soon defeated the Fantees, the Braffoos, the Inkoosookooms, the Abrahs, the Annamabos, the Denkiras and Assins, confederate tribes of the coast, in more than one great battle, taking possession of the native towns of Yankumassie, Quadagna, and Dunkwa, and driving the poor people into Cape Coast Castle. The enemy, hereupon, directly threatening an attack on the British settlement, approached within a few miles of Cape Coast Castle. The acting Governor, Colonel Harley, using the small force of different military corps at his disposal, with the aid of boats and men from the naval squadron, has caused a severe punishment to be inflicted not only upon the invading Ashantees, but also upon the disaffected people of Elmina, whose town has been utterly destroyed. It is situated but eight miles from the town of Cape Coast Castle. We are favoured by Sub-Lieutenant Archibald Clark Kennedy, of the Druid; Sub-Lieutenant Conyers Lang, of the Barracouta; and Mr. W. Read, engineer, of the Decoy, with sketches of this affair. The two engraved show the bombardment of the town, on the 13th ult., by the guns of Fort St. George and boats of the squadron, which had moved up the river; secondly, the fight which took place later in the same day, when the Ashantees, some three thousand strong, who attacked the British position at Elmina, were repulsed with heavy loss by our marines and sailors, West India negro troops, and Houssas, or African fighting men, employed as a local military police by the British Government.

The following narrative is supplied by another hand. It is confirmed by the official despatches published on Wednesday:—

"It having come to the knowledge of the British authorities that the people of Elmina had been harbouring Ashantees and supplying them with ammunition and provisions, while they were also suspected of having fought against the Fantees in the late encounters, it was decided that they should be disarmed, quietly if possible, but that in case of resistance the town should be destroyed. The plan of operations was this:—A detachment of marines, Houssas, West India troops, and volunteers, about 300 in number, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Festing, R.M.A., were to march to Elmina on the night of June 12, and surround the hostile portion of the town on the land side, while the boats of the fleet should occupy a river which divides that portion of the town from the friendly part, with the exception of two boats, which should guard the coast line and mouth of the river.

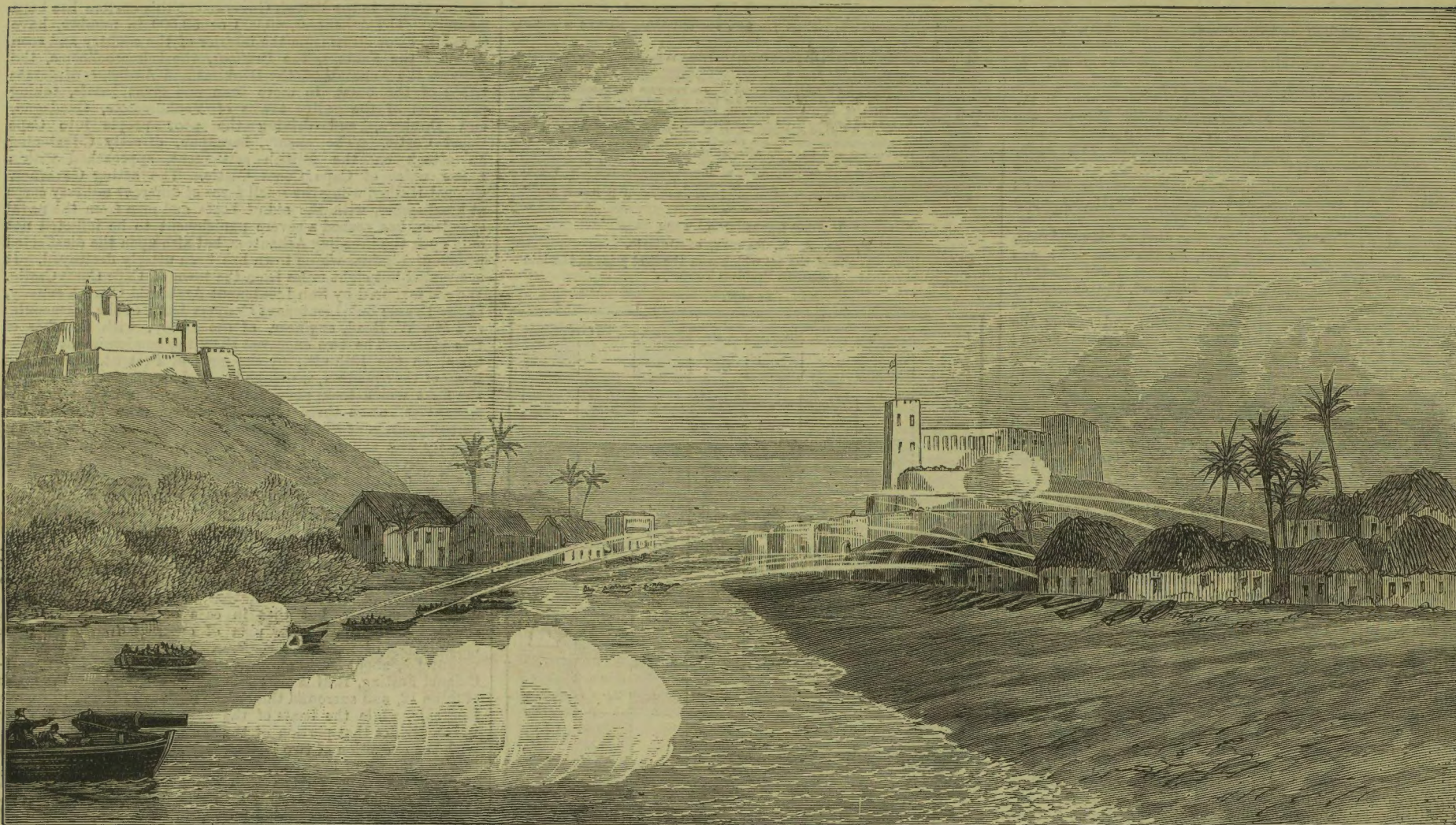
"At 2.30 a.m. on the 13th the gun-boat Decoy started for Elmina, having in tow nine boats from the ships Barracouta and Seagull, containing 120 officers and men, commanded by Lieutenants Wells and Marrack. On arriving at Elmina, at 4.15 a.m., the landing party was reinforced by the boats of the ships Druid and Argus, commanded by Lieutenants Bourke and Young, and those of the Decoy by Lieutenant Commander Hext—the whole body consisting of twenty-one boats, containing about 300 officers and men, being under the command of Captain Fremantle. Having formed in double line, the post of honour was given to Lieutenant Commander Hext, in consequence of his intimate knowledge of the intricate entrance to the river. By daybreak every one of the boats was moored in her proper station inside the bar without a mishap of any kind, except the accidental discharge of a revolver, which wounded a midshipman in the left shoulder and a man in the left thigh—neither seriously. Martial law was immediately proclaimed, and promise made that no harm should be done if the arms were yielded quietly, but to no purpose; and, having given a few hours for the women, children, and unarmed men to clear out in, at noon precisely a perfect hail of shot, shell, and rockets was poured into the town from the castle, boats' guns, and rocket-tubes. In ten minutes the town was on fire in as many places, and the enemy were obliged to evacuate it and take to the bush. A small party being left in charge of the boats, the main body of the forces, both naval and military, pursued the Elmina men, while Lieutenants Hext and Young, with a few men, having at great risk to themselves penetrated to the seashore, which was the windward side of the town, applied torches to the roofs of every house along the beach. A strong breeze favoured the conflagration, and in half an hour the whole town was in flames. In the mean time sharp skirmishing was going on outside the town, but there never was a doubt as to the result, the Elminas giving way as our men advanced, keeping up a hot but ill-directed fire as they retreated. Whenever they attempted a stand the rockets from the steam-pinnacle of the Barracouta and those from the cutter of the Decoy speedily caused them to disperse again. After they had been driven some miles through the bush, and had disappeared, our men returned to their boats, and some had even come on board the ships, when a rumour spread that 600 Ashantees had attacked, and were about to burn, the friendly part of the town. The marines and Houssas promptly attacked them, while the Barracouta's contingent, hearing the firing, marched with all speed in that direction, and, getting on their flank under cover of a garden wall, poured in such a deadly fire at a very short range—some fifty yards—that the Ashantees had to retreat, and, after one more stand for a few minutes, fled into the thicker portion of the bush. It was now nearly six p.m., and the men, having been under arms since one o'clock in the morning, were much exhausted; the pursuit was given up, and the naval party returned to their respective ships. The casualties in this very decisive day's work were on our side few—one marine belonging to the Barracouta and two volunteers killed and seven or eight wounded, none very severely. This small loss is a good deal attributable to their custom of firing from the hip. The enemy's loss was very heavy, considering the nature of the ground—180 bodies have already been buried (16th), and many more are reported to be lying in the swamps. They carried their wounded off with them, and only half a dozen prisoners were made."

We shall give some more illustrations next week.

The state apartments of Windsor Castle are open.

The Orange demonstration in the north of Ireland passed off quietly on Saturday last. At Londonderry a few flags were hoisted on the cathedral and Walker's Pillar. At Belfast the authorities had concentrated a large force of military and police to prevent processions marching through the borough, and perfect order was maintained. The Orangemen formed a great procession at Holywood, marched to "Orange" tunes, and displayed party colours, but no collision between the rival factions occurred. In this country also the anniversary was celebrated by meetings and speeches.

T H E A S H A N T E E W A R .



BOMBARDMENT OF THE TOWN OF ELMINA.



REPULSE OF THE ASHANTEES AT ELMINA BY THE BRITISH SAILORS AND MARINES.